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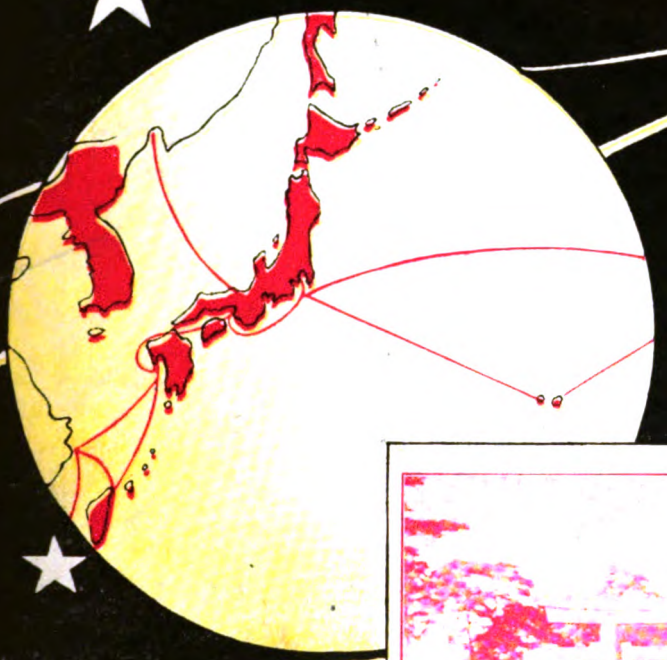

A REPRESENTATIVE MONTHLY OF THINGS JAPANESE

Third, Fifth and Seventh Years Children Visiting their Tutelary Deities on the Day of Celebration of *Shichi-Go-San*

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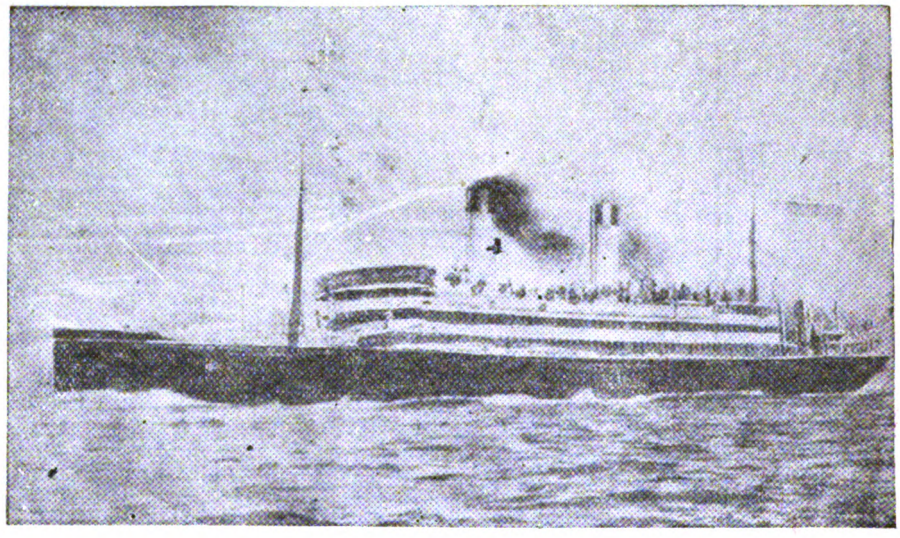

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THE JAPAN MAGAZINE

A REPRESENTATIVE MONTHLY OF THINGS JAPANESE

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H.I.H. the Prince Regent in old ceremonious costume in front of the Meiji Shrine dedicated to the late Emperor.

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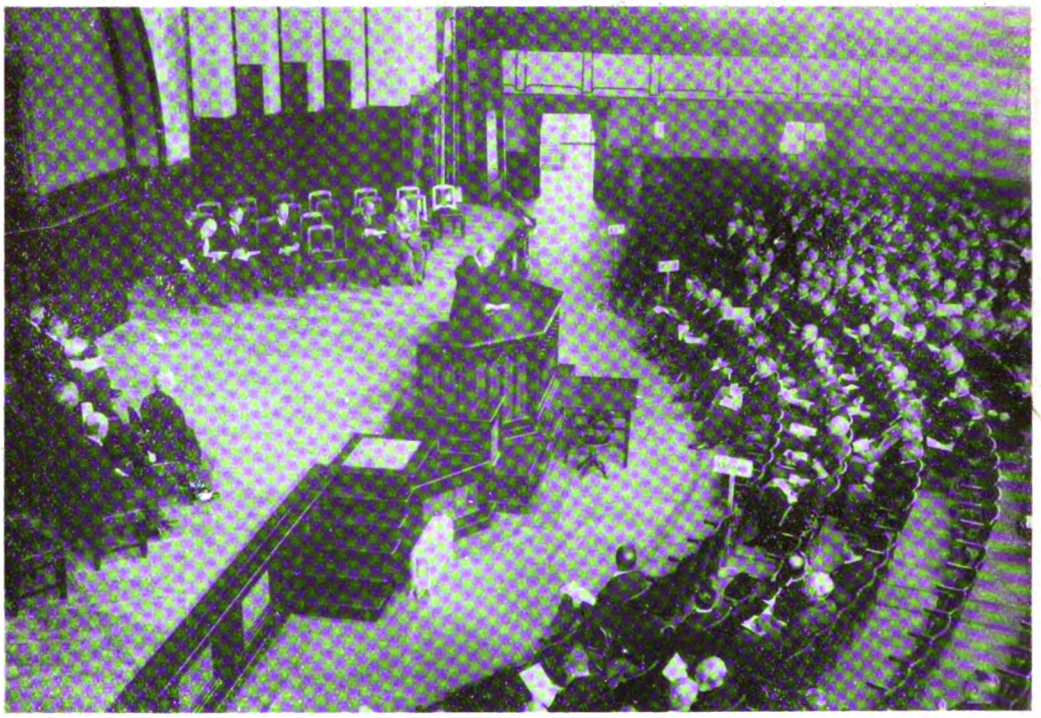
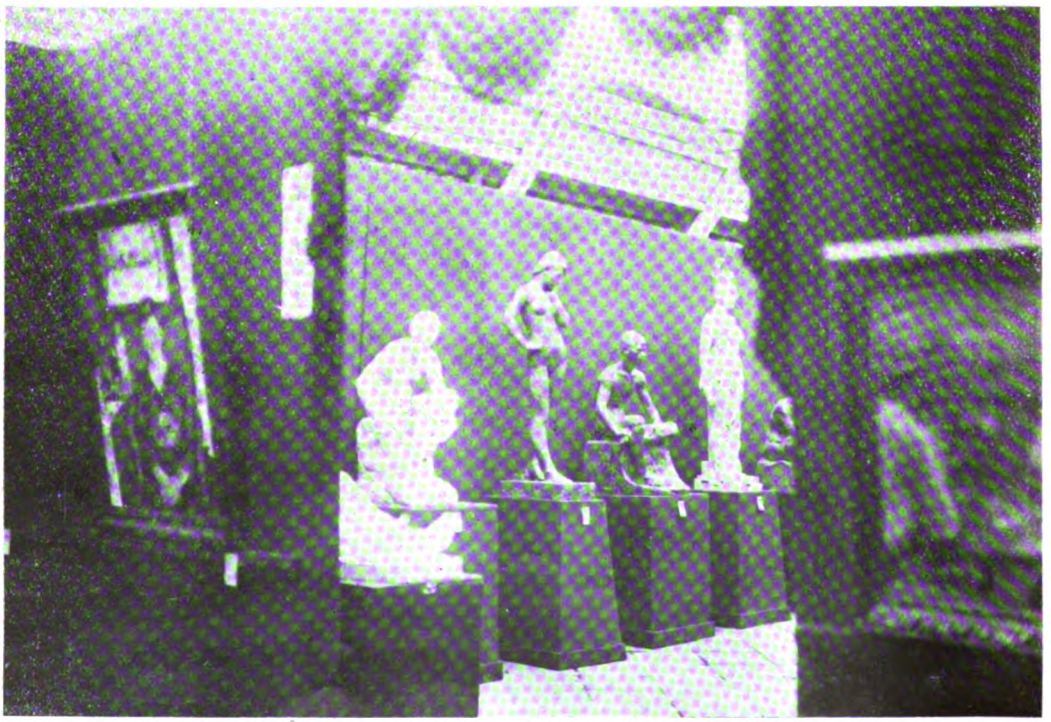


The Sixth Congress of the Far Eastern Association of Tropical Medicine held in the Auditorium of Tokyo Imperial University. Premier Kato reading his Welcome Address in the picture.



A section of the Fine Art Exhibition held this Autumn under the auspices of the Education Department.

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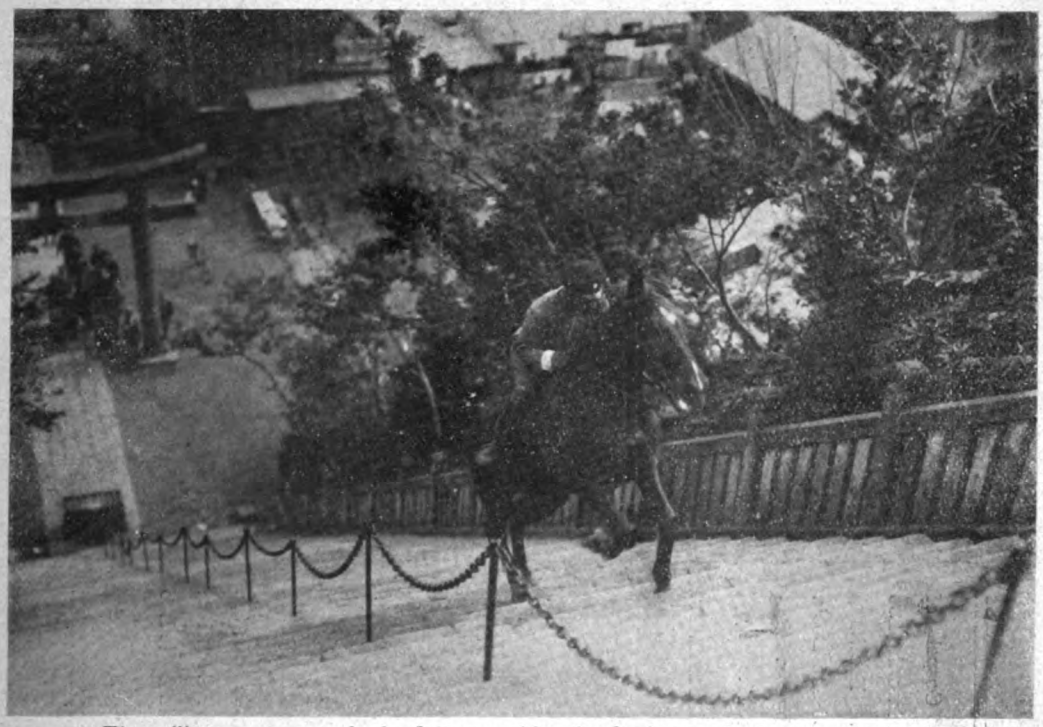
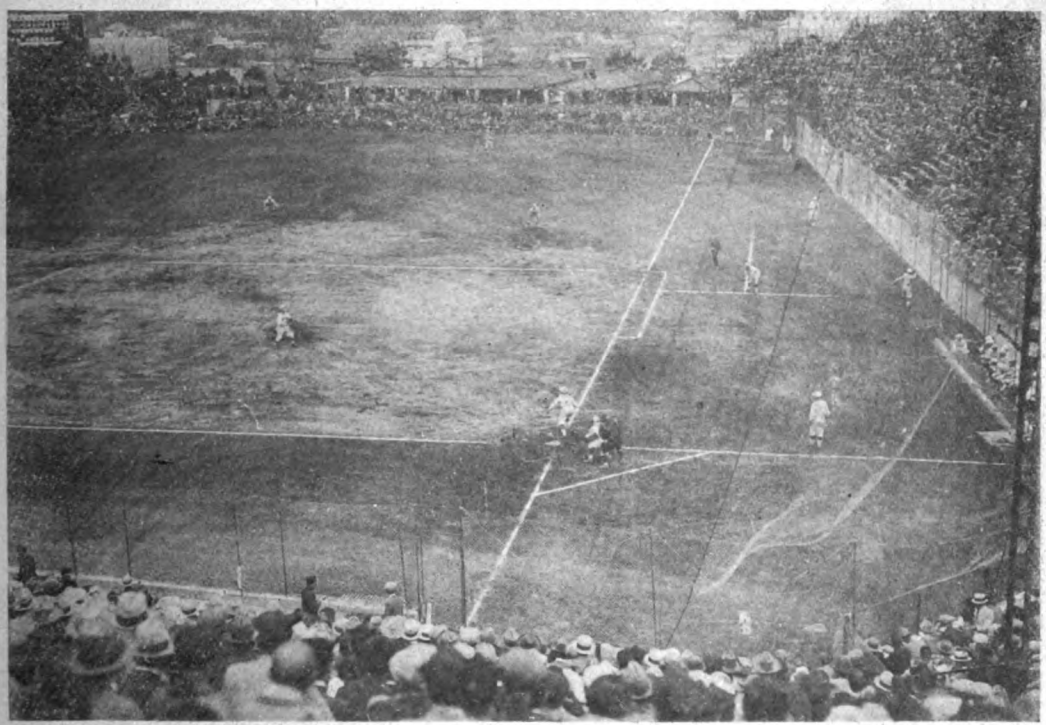


The military groom made the first record by clambering up the famous stone stairs by his excellent horsemanship in front of the Atago Shrine.



The most exciting baseball g mes scored off between the Waseda and the Keio teams, the two great teams in Tokyo. They attracted an immense concourse of spectators in October.

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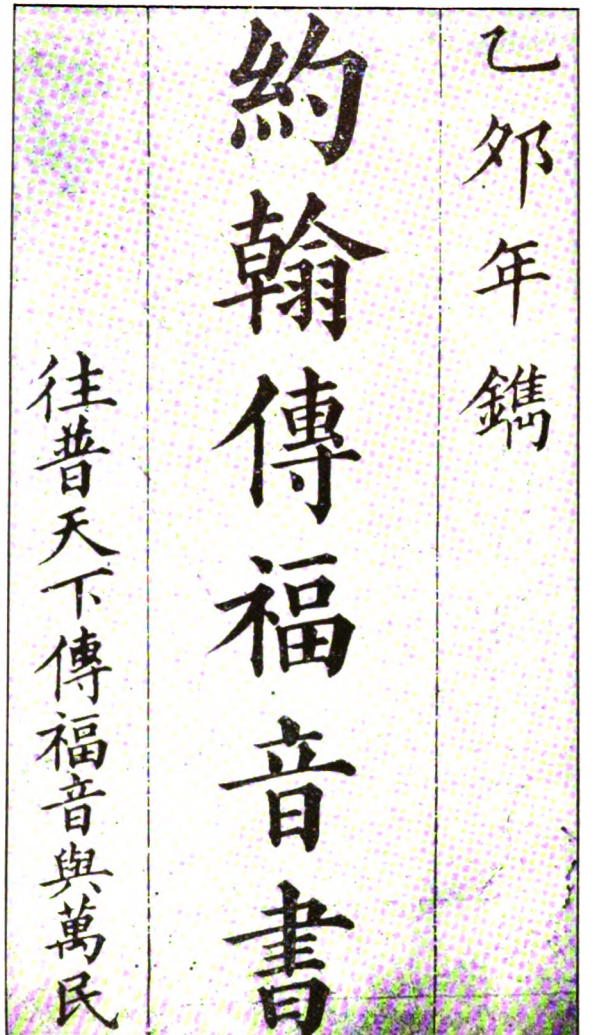
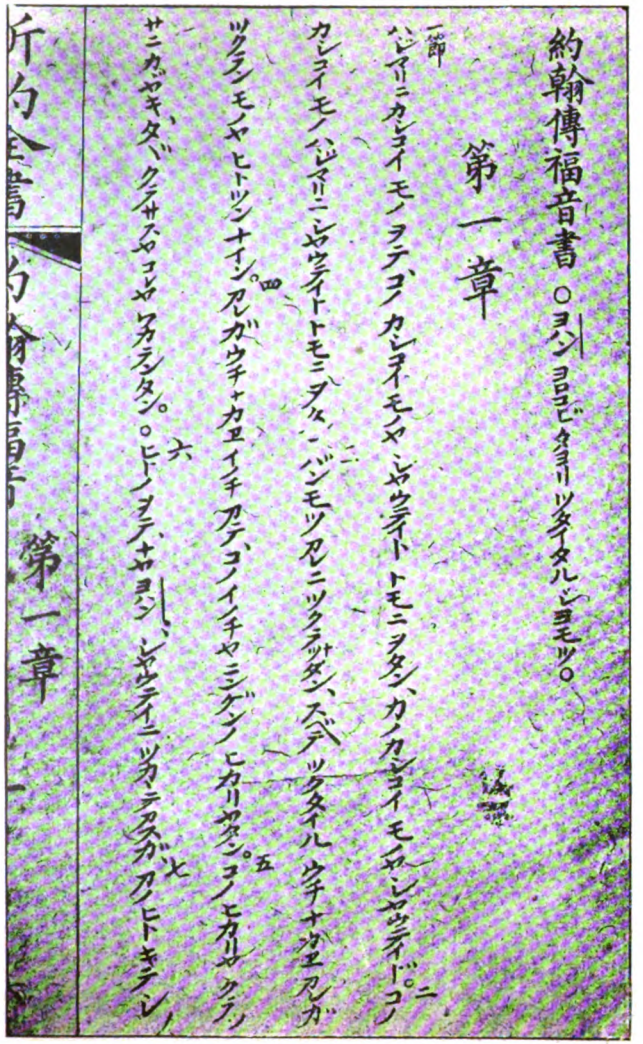

乙邓年鐫

約翰傳福音書

往普天下傳福音與萬民

Right:—The Gospel of John translated into the Loo Choo language. Facsimile of the Cover of the Book. (See the article by Mr. Higaonna in the present issue.)


約翰傳福音書 ○ヨハン ヨロビ タヨリツタイタル ビヨモツ。

第一章

一節 ハジマリニカレヨイモノヲテコノカレヨイモノヤレウテイトトモニヲタン、カノカレヨイモヤレウテイデ。二 カレヨイモノハジマリニレウテイトトモニヲタ。三 ヲノヅクラツタン、スデツクタイル ウチナカヨアルガ ツクヲンモノヤヒトツンナイン。四 アルガウチヤカヨイチ ヲテコノイノチヤニンゲンノヒカリヲタン。五 ヒカリヤクラヲ サニカヾヤキタバクサスルコトヤ クヲテンタン。六 ヒトノヲテナヨハン、レウテイニツカテヲスガ ヲノヒトキテレ

Left:—Facsimile of the first page of the Gospel of John translated into the Loo Choo language.

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THE JAPAN MAGAZINE

VOL. XVI NOVEMBER, 1925 No. II

The Month in Progress

THE EDITOR'S DIARY

SEPT. 15.—Dr. T. Terao died at 10.30 p.m. in his villa at Gotemba, where he had been recuperating since January, 1923. He was the first scholar of political science in Japan. He was one of the seven professors of the Tokyo Imperial University advocating war with Russia before the Japan-Russia War. In the first revolution of China, he helped largely in the building up of the revolutionary Government and acted as advisor to it for a time, contributing much towards the cultivation of friendship between Japan and China.

Sept. 16.—Prince George of England arrived at Tokyo Station, where he was received by Prince Takamatsu. He drove straight to the British Embassy. After a short recess there, he made visits to the Imperial family. He paid homage at the Meiji Shrine, after which he went to the Imperial Palace, where he was warmly received by H. M. the Empress, and the Prince Regent. He was given a banquet in the Homei Hall.

Sept. 17.—There has been a great change in the personnel of local Governors as a result of the establishment of the Kensei-Kai Cabinet.

The King and Queen of the Belgians after travelling in India will leave Colombo for home in October by an N. Y. K. steamer. Their preference for a Japanese steamer is appreciated here as an honour to the Japanese shipping world.

The Hatsukaze, one of the Asahi airplanes, reached Berlin to-day. The Kochikaze, her companion, had to go back to Koenigsberg on account of motor trouble.

Abbot Koen Otani of the East Hongwan Temple has retired on account of a heavy debt, privately contracted.

Sept. 18.—At 3.25 p.m. the House of Peers took fire. The flames soon spread to the whole building and to the House of Representatives near by. The fire was extinguished at 5 p.m. after destroying the main buildings of both houses.

General Yui, reserve, died of cancer of the stomach at 7.30 p.m. at the age of 66. He was an able officer and was once looked upon as a possibility for the position of Chief of General Staff.

Sept. 19.—At an extraordinary Cabinet meeting it was decided to build semi-permanent wooden buildings for the Diet to be ready for use by January 20.

Mr. C. Ninomiya of Osaka has been officially commended on account of his designing a good model of a flying

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machine thirty-two years ago, when no flying-machines had yet been invented.

Sept. 20.—At 1.45 a.m. the house of Prince Tokugawa at Sendagaya, Tokyo caught fire. The whole building was soon ablaze, as the fire was discovered too late and there was insufficient water. The flames were subdued at 3.15 a.m. after destroying seven buildings covering an area of 900 *tsubo*. Prince and Princess Tokugawa were at their Dzushi villa. The total loss is estimated at 1,000,000 yen, of which 350,000 yen is covered by insurance.

Sept. 22.—The Post Office Insurance Bureau of the Communications Department plans operating earthquake insurance, for which it has nearly concluded the necessary investigations. There is some opposition raised by private fire insurance companies, but this will be disregarded, according to the authorities.

Sept. 23.—Desirous to establish a permanent national food policy solving a long standing question of great importance in connection with the problem of population, the Agriculture and Forestry Minister is consulting with the Korean Government-General. The latter has a plan to increase the rice crop in Korea by 8,000,000 *koku* in a decade, with which she will be able to supply annually 9,000,000 *koku* to Japan proper, including 4,000,000 *koku* as supplied at present. This would be sufficient to obviate foreign rice importation and insure the self-supply of food by Japan.

Sept. 24.—In connection with the official project for aerial navigation lines, it is understood that if the estimated expenditure of about 2,500,000 yen for the fiscal year of 1926-1927 is approved by the Diet, a weekly service between Tokyo and Dairen and a tri-weekly service between Osaka and Shanghai will be started.

Viscount Hamao, President of the Privy Council, met with an accident at his residence in Tokyo. While taking a walk he fell into a hole in which fallen leaves and sticks were being burnt. He was badly burnt about the head, breast, feet and hands and became unconscious. It was some time before he was discovered by the family.

The opening of the Tokyo-Uyeno section on the Government electric railway lines is expected on November 1.

Sept. 25.—Viscount Hamao died at 3.40 p.m. in the Tokyo Imperial University hospital. He was 77 years of age. Viscount Hamao was a man of the greatest sincerity, pure and noble, says Premier Viscount Kato, and it is a great national loss that he died without being able to further devote himself to national affairs.

Sept. 26.—The Italian flier de Pinedo reached Kasumigaura at 5.51 p.m. after travelling a distance of 36,000 kilometers.

Baron Matsui was invested as Ambassador to the Court of St. James's at the Akasaka Palace.

Sept. 27.—Mr. Y. Kataoka, who won an international reputation for his recovery of gold worth £100,000 from the Yasaka-maru lying at the bottom of the Mediterranean Sea, returned to Tokyo to-day, accompanied by Captain T. Hamada.

Sept. 28.—It is officially announced that from October 1st, foreign postage rates will be lowered to 10 sen for letters not exceeding 20 grams in weight, with 6 sen for each additional 20 grams, to 6 sen for post cards, to 12 sen for return post cards, to 2 sen for printed matter to 50 grams, to 10 sen for business papers not exceeding 150 grams in weight, with 2 sen for each additional 50 grams and to 4 sen for commercial samples not exceeding 100 grams in weight, with 2 sen for each additional 50 grams.

Sept. 29.—The funeral service of the late Viscount Hamao was held in the Tokyo Imperial University Hall.

Sept. 30.—Baron C. Hozumi and Dr. K. Okano have been appointed the Presi-

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dent and Vice-President of the Privy Council respectively as recommended by Prince Saionji, their installation ceremony being held on the 30th in the Akasaka Palace befo e the Prince Regent.

The Asahi fliers entered Paris on the 28th, finishing the second part of the flight from Japan to Europe.

Oct. 1.—A big meeting of noted Japanese, Chinese, Korean and Formosan Buddhists will be held in Tokyo on November 1st.

Oct. 2.—There was a heavy downpour of rain from the 29th to the 1st, the heaviest recorded in 50 years, causing extensive damage to the Kwanto District. In Tokyo alone, 42,332 houses were flooded. Everywhere in the district there were casualties and means of communications were interrupted.

Oct. 3.—A national census was taken at 12 a.m. on the 1st. At the same time, an unemployment census was also taken.

Oct. 4.—The rice crop of this year is officially estimated at 61,494,210 *koku*, based on the conditions existing on September 20th, an increase of 4,323,-797 *koku*, or 7.6 per cent. over the actual harvest in 1924 and of 3,154,738 *koku*, or 5.4 per cent. over the average yield for the past five years.

Dr. G. Yamawaki, Member of the House of Peers, while walking in the street at Tamachi, Akasaka, Tokyo, collided with a quickly moving bicycle. He fell on his back and struck his head on the concrete pavement, sustaining a severe wound. He was taken to the Keio University Hospital, where he is lying in a serious condition.

Oct. 5.—The ceremony of placing a band or sash around the body of the Crown Princess, who is enceinte, was held in the Akasaka Palace.

Oct. 6.—The executives of the Seiyu Party have published the principal planks of its policy.

Oct. 7.—According to the unemployment census taken by the Tokyo Municipality on the 1st, there were 10,544 unemployed persons in Tokyo, 25.8 per cent. of the employed.

Oct. 8.—Mr. H. Arimatsu, a member of the Privy Council, suffered a stroke of apoplexy at his home on the morning of the 6th. He was the President of the Bureau of Legislation in 1916, after which he was appointed a member of the Privy Council.

Dr. Yamawaki died at 8.30 p.m. in the Keio Hospital. He was 77 years of age.

Oct. 9.—The Government has decided on its policy in connection with the Chinese Customs Tariff Conference, proposing the adjustment of unsecured loans by additional Customs income to be levied.

As a result of the national census taken on the 1st instant, it has been ascertained that Tokyo has a population of 2,080,-000. As compared with the number before the earthquake, the figure shows a decrease of 100,000.

Oct. 10.—The Electrical Exhibition was opened at Uyeno to-day.

Oct. 12.—Returns of the Statistical Bureau of the Cabinet, just published, show that during 1924, there were 2,041,106 births in Japan, 1,041,723 males and 999,383 females, a decrease of 42,985 from 1923, and 1,273,720 deaths, 653,577 males and 620,143 females, a decreases of 77,099 from 1923. Still births numbered 125,839. Births were thus greater by 743,574 than deaths, being 12.57 per 1,000 population, which is .41 larger than in 1923.

The Sixth Congress of the Far Eastern Association of Tropical Medicine was opened in the Tokyo Imperial University Hall at 9 a.m. to-day. Premier Viscount Kato delivered a speech of welcome.

Oct. 13.—At a Cabinet conference held to-day, Japan's general policy respecting the Chinese Customs Tariff Conference was decided.

Oct. 15.—A baseball match will be held on the 17th between the Keio and Waseda teams on the Waseda ground. It has created a sensation among the fans throughout Japan, as it is twenty years since there has been a baseball game between these universities.

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The Truth About Chinese Finance

Through the Courtesy of The Keimei-Kai Society

I

1. Bird's Eye View

CHINESE finance is as disordered and complicated as her national condition is chaotic and disunited, it being nearly impossible to reach the truth about it. It is doubtless, however, that her financial straits are growing in intensity. She always has been unable to make both ends meet with her revenue since the end of the Ching Dynasty.

This has rendered it almost impossible for her to adopt plans to promote her national welfare and happiness, while foreign loans have had to be raised very often to stave off bankruptcy.

As a consequence there was once keen international rivalry for the acquisition of rights and interests in the country, every Power eagerly trying to establish its sphere of influence there by leasing important places or by a railway policy, which threatened the dismemberment of the country.

Later, the World War broke out, diverting the world's attention. In consequence and also under a plan proposed by America, which had fallen behind other Powers in her Far Eastern policy, most of rights and interests acquired by the Powers in China were amalgamated in a new international syndicate formed in 1920, which saved China from being divided up. Chinese financial distress and disorder have been more serious since then than before.

As it is evident that she cannot hope for a turn in fortune by her unaided power, it is developing another very grave situation, in which China is likely to be put under the joint management of the Powers.

Chinese financial disorder has always been a source of threatened disturbance of the peace in Eastern Asia. Not only that, but it has stood as the most serious bar to the establishment of the Chines political foundation and to her internal unification, and as a depressing factor in her foreign trade.

The matter has often been made an international question, as a result of which political loans have been made jointly by the Powers to China in acceptance of her request, and Japan once loaned a large amount of administrative funds to her in order to help her in her financial re-adjustment and internal unification.

This, however, resulted only in the promotion of her political confusion and her financial disorder, far from contributing to her political and financial improvement.

The Powers approved a Chines Customs tariff revision at the Washington Conference held in 1922, thinking it urgently necessary to help her in increasing her financial resources and in taking fundamental relief measures.

The conference approved a revision of the Chinese import tariff to 5 per cent, *ad valorem* and decided to hold a special international committee meeting within three months after the tariff revision, for the purpose of preparing for the realization of the Chinese arrangements with

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England, America, Japan and Portugal for raising her import tariff to 12.5 per cent. in lieu of the abolition of the likin system and considering the imposition of an additional duty of 2.5 per cent. *ad valorem* on general imports and of 2.5-5.0 per cent. ad valorem on luxury goods temporarily until the operation of the above arrangements. Soon afterwards, the import tariff was enhanced to 5 per cent.

The special committee meeting has not been held due to France not yet ratifying the tariff convention under the pretext of the non-settlement of the gold franc question. This has put off preparations for the operation of the above arrangements. But it may operate soon, when the additional duty will give a new revenue of about 30,000,000 *gen* to China.

Some people argue that in order to relieve China, the first thing to do must be to enrich China by increased revenue, for her financial distress will lead her to ruin and that nothing is safer than the import tariff as a source of revenue, it being hard to expect, from her national condition and financial system, much revenue from other sources, as in other civilized countries.

At the Washington Conference, the Powers consented to a Chinese import tariff revision, for no other reason than that they considered it urgently necessary to reform Chinese finance in order to build up a strong government, in compliance with one of the four great fundamental principles regarding China, decided on at the outset of the conference, declaring for ample and unrestricted opportunities to China for forming and maintaining a powerful and well founded government.

It would of course be disadvantageous to China to simply give facilities to her for the raising of a series of loans as past examples show.

Nor would it be easy for her to seek her chief resource of revenue from general taxation other than the import tariff. If the Customs income only is relied upon as the soundest source of revenue for relieving the Chinese financial distress, there would be nearly endless enhancements of the tariff, affecting seriously the Chinese trade of the Powers and especially of Japan, while not beneficial for Chinese economic development.

A more pressing need is to go to the root of the Chinese financial crisis, without merely and endlessly seeking new sources of revenue. Not a few people speak of China as financially incompetent and as unable to adjust or reform her finance except by the joint management by the powers. Is it truly so? An answer will be found in the following chapters.

2. Chinese Loans

In the prosperous period of the Ching Dynasty, no positive administrative policy was taken by the Chinese Government other than one under which the people were strictly punished and lightly taxed, so that they submitted to its authority with good grace.

Then the Government was in a comparatively good financial condition. Later, however, public discipline slackened off and national troubles occurred one after another, which compelled the raising of a foreign loan for the first time in 1867. In the subsequent twenty years ending 1887, £6,840,000 worth of foreign loans were contracted by the Chinese Government. These loans were, however, all of a short term and were paid off until about 1894,

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as no further troubles occurred. They did not form any source of trouble in the national finance, which stood independent, with the yearly revenue of 83,500,000 taels and expenditure of 77,500,000 taels, showing a yearly surplus of 6,000,000 taels.

The Japan-China War broke out in 1894, and this opened a period of financial disorder in the country. The Chinese Government tried to float a domestic loan for the first time upon the opening of hostilities, but failed. There was, therefore, nothing left for her to do but have recourse to foreign loans, which were raised to the extent of £54,455,000 to cover the principal part of the war expenditure and indemnity. Since then 25,000,000 taels worth of foreign loans had to be repaid yearly, and this brought the yearly expenditure to upwards of 100,000,000 taels as against the yearly revenue of 88,000,000 taels, a great strain on the finance of the central Government.

Not only that, but the Government gradually lost its former dignity, which led to an international struggle for the acquisition of rights and interests in the country. This brought about the Boxer trouble in 1900, which drove the country into a greater financial impasse, as she was charged with an indemnity of 450,000,000 taels which had to be paid annually to the amount of about 22,000,000 taels, in addition to the amount to be repaid on account of old foreign loans, the total yearly making 47,000,000 taels.

Each province was burdened with a share of the payment, but it could not stand the burden, as it had then a great expansion of expenditure in connection with efforts to carry out new administrative policies in coperation with the central Government.

In the meantime, the pressure of the Powers had grown severer. With troubles occurring in rapid succession, within and without, Government reforms were clamorously discussed among the people. Preliminary steps were taken for the establishment of a constitution, in order to strengthen the national power. This led to increased financial straits.

In 1906, an Imperial edict was promulgated concerning the re-organization of the central Government and a great readjustment of its finance. Under this edict, thorough financial reforms were attempted. In was impossible, however, to sweep away the deep-rooted evils, and the yearly expenditure of the central Government reached over 200,000,000 taels at the end of the Kocho era and amounted to 300,000,000 taels in the Sento era.

Extremely embarrassed by insufficient remittances from the provinces, the Central Government was compelled to creat foreign economic loans and particularly foreign railway loans by taking advantage of the keen rivalry existing among the Powers for the acquisition of rights and interests in the country, by which it was just able to cover the shortage in the administrative expenditure. Under such conditions of financial disorganization, the ruin of the Ching Dynasty was inevitable.

From this it may be judged how much the condition of her finances had to do with the rise and fall of her dynasties, whose administration good or bad was viewed from light or heavy impositions on the people.

Towards the end of the Ching Dynasty, the deficit of income amouted yearly to 60,000,000 or 70,000,000 taels. The revolutionary Government succeeding it had a greater outlay of money than before, with a heavy amount of urgent dis-

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bursements needed for the disbandment of the troops and other items, in addition to an increase in the ordinary expenditure by 150,000,000 or 160,000,000 taels a year, including the monthly amount for the eighty northern Divisions. The finances of the Central Government could not, therefore, be managed but by means of foreign loans.

The Powers were very willing to loan money to China in order to realize their ambitions. Various foreign loans were raised and they aggregated about 460,-000,000 *gen* at the end of the third year of the Republic, involving interest of 23,-000,000 *gen* at the average rate of 5½ per cent.

The provincial Governments asked the Central Government to pay the shortage of their revenue, but the latter could not meet the request and wished each province to take suitable means by itself. This was met by the raising of provincial foreign loans, which led to the financial independence of each province of the Central Government.

The conclusion of the big remedial loan from the Four Power Syndicate was marked by putting under the control of the syndicate the use of the loan proceeds. This was the realization of what China had had the utmost aversion to in the past as a step towards the interference of the Powers in her internal affairs, and it inaugurated the Powers' financial management of China.

For the first three or four years of the Republic, however, China managed her financial affairs somehow or other with increased remittances from the provinces, under the assumption of control of all state affairs by Yuan. When the latter attempted the restoration of the monarchy, however, her financial and other affairs lost proper management, and upon his fall, her finance was again badly disorganized.

While Yuan was in power, her expanded military administration demanded of the Central Government a yearly expenditure of 300,000,000. Upon the outbreak of the World War, no foreign loans could be raised satisfactorily and the expenditure had to be met temporarily by the reckless raising of domestic loans.

In the sixth year of the Republic, however, several independent loans were contracted with Japan, which aided Tuan Ministry. In addition, the Boxer indemnity was allowed by the allies to be not paid for five years in appreciation of Chinese participation in the War, and in that period, the Chinese burden was lightened yearly by 19,890,000 tales, while her obligations of about 60,000,000 *gen* to Germany and Austria were naturally liquidated.

At the same time, salt tax yearly increased since the reform of its system and amounted to about 85,000,000 *gen* a year. The Custom revenue also increased 8,000,000 taels a year upon the operation of the new tariff. Moreover, silver appreciated heavily, benefitting greatly the repayment of foreign loans, and import and export trade was nearly balanced. All these things were providential and unique in the history of Chinese finance.

If internal disturbances had not taken place then, no great financial suffering would have been experienced by China even with no remittances from the provinces. It was a unique opportunity for the re-adjustment of financial affairs. But Chinese statesmen cared nothing for that. On the contrary, their maladministration became worse, they set up faction and gave themselves up to

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an orgy of political strife. This resulted in an unreasonable increase in military and administrative expenditures, and the general disbursements also were much greater than in the old days, more than ever disturbing the national finance.

In February, 1918, the five Powers' Ministers in Peking decided not to grant any political loans to China until she was unified. Since then, no foreign loans have been raised by China, except in 1920, when £5,000,000 and 4,000,000 *gen* were borrowed by her as an emergency administrative fund and North China famine relief fund respectively.

The Chinese financial administration has, therefore, been conducted of late years by such makeshifts as the extravagant issue of bank notes, the raising of short date foreign and domestic loans, the issue of exchequer notes, etc.

Chinese finance was maintained nearly entirely be means of foreign and domestic loans since the end of the Ching Dynasty, and these loans outstand now to the extent of about 2,600,000 *gen*, or £280,000,000 or £290,000,000, the payment of whose principal and interest amounts yearly to several hundreds of millions of *gen*, although it is hard to give the exact amount of these loans, for they are in different currencies and not a small part of them has been contracted secretly.

Annual Revenue and Expenditure of China. — Everyone interested in China wishes to know the exact amount of the Chinese annual revenue and expenditure. But it is impossible to ascertain not only her annual revenue but even the annual income of the Central Government, on account of her financial disorganization.

It may be stated, however, that her main sources of revenue are a few comparatively simple taxes, namely, the land, salt and miscellaneous taxes and the Customs tariff, in which there have been few changes from ancient times, with the exception of the likin, or freight-tax, which was created in the Ching Dynasty.

In China, it has been considered harder to reform the legal organization than to change a dynasty, and it has been most difficult to alter taxation, as light and heavy taxation have been traditionally the most important factor in judging good or bad government by the people. The Chinese taxation system has, therefore, been almost unchanged radically, while there have been frequent changes in dynasty, increases in the national expenditure having been met by successive monarchs by creating temporary or additional taxes.

All these old and new taxes have been collected by the provincial Governments as national income and have been applied to their respective local expenditure, with the exception of a fixed amount, which has been paid to the Central Government. The finance of the Central Government has, therefore, been decided principally by the condition of the remittance of this tax money from the provinces.

In recent years, the Customs tariff and the salt tax have not been at the disposal of the Chinese Government as much as before and the payments from the provinces have been liable to be in arrears. In order to provide against this, the Central Government introduced a system of direct income in the fourth year of the Republic, departing somewhat from the old method of tax collection. Later, however, the local Governments became financially independent of the Central

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Government as an outcome of the national disunion after the revolution; the land tax, which is the most important of all amounting yearly at least to 80,000,000 or 90,000,000 *gen*, having become purely a local tax now, the likin, or freight tax, which comes to a yearly amount of 40,-000,000 *gen*, being applied entirely now to meeting local administrative expenses, except the amount collected in Peking and its neighbourhood, and all other taxes, which total yearly 20,000,000 or 30,-000,000 *gen*, being entirely unavailable to the Cental Government, save a negligible amount.

The localization of these national taxes has naturally diminished greatly the remittances from the provinces supporting the Central Government for one-half of its revenue, and in the 10th year of the Republic, it stood only at 3,400,000 *gen* as against 19,000,000 *gen* in its 4th year.

There is an income on some Government enterprises, but hardly to be mentioned as national income. Nor are the incomes drawn by some departments of the Central Government from their respective business significant, as they are spent by the departments freely for their own purposes, contributing little to the national treasury receipts.

The taxes left as the most important sources of revenue of the Cental Government are, therefore, only the Customs tariff, the salt tax and the newly created direct tax above quoted.

The last mentioned has nine kinds, but none yields a good income, except two, which are comparatively important. These are the stamp duty aud the tobacco and wine monopoly. Actually, however, even these two have given but little income to the Central Government in recent years, when it had not so much power over the provincial Governments as before, being only 1,780,000 *gen* for the fiscal year of the loth-11th year of Republic and 1,400,000 *gen* for that of the 11th-12th years out of the total of 15,000,000 *gen* drawn from the monopoly and only 300,000 *gen* for the stamp duty out of the total of 3,280,000 *gen*.

The Customs tariff and the salt tax only have given a yearly increased amount of proceeds to the Central Government, the receipts from the former coming yearly to 95,000,000 *gen* and those from the latter to over 90,000,000 *gen*.

These receipts are not, however, entirely at the disposal of the Central Government, as they are security to foreign creditors, who control the appropriation of the receipts by the Chinese Government, whose liberty regarding them is being restricted gradually, it being impossible for it to hope to get more than 35,000,000 *gen* a year out of the total Customs receipts after paying the maintenance expenditure of 6,000,000 *gen* for the Customs and the principal and interest of foreign loans of 58,000,000 *gen*.

Even these earnings have been applied to re-adjusting domestic bonds of late years, the yearly amount of their principal and interest reaching 46,000,000 *gen*, which the receipts fall short to cover by over 10,000,000 *gen*.

In the salt tax, the actual amount at the command of the Chinese Government has been only 35,000,000 *gen* of late out of the total receipts of 90,000,-000 *gen*, with the subtraction of 20,000,-000 *gen* for the principal and interest of foreign loans, the local expenditure, the amounts detained on the way by the military cliques, the cost of collection and the amonnt to be carried forward to the

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next fiscal year. This small balance leaves but a pittance to the Government, when it is paid as the principal and interest of short date loans raised by it on its security since it became practically impossible to negotiate foreign loans.

Thus the Customs tariff and the salt tax, which the Government has relied on as a principal source of revenue, now leave little available for the expenses of administration, being used for the re-adjustment and repayment of foreign and domestic loahs.

The only item left at present as the net income of the Chinese Government is the freight and other taxes collected in Peking and its neighbourhood, which is said to amount yearly to 2,300,000 *gen* after paying the expenses.

A report submitted to the President by the Chairman of the Financial Re-Adjustment Committee gives the net income of the Government as 7,000,000 *gen* a year, while the yearly expenditure comes to 128,000,000 *gen*, consisting of 58,000,-000 *gen* for the administrative expenditure and 70,000,000 *gen* for military expenditure. From this the state of the Chinese national treasury may be imagined.

In these circumstances, the payment of the principal and interest of all the foreign loans of China has been suspended , except those secured by the Customs tariff and the salt tax, which are being repaid regularly under the control of the foreign syndicates.

Most of the domestic loans have been little rapaid, too, except those, which are repaid under the control of the Inspectorate-general, the above-mentioned balance of the Customs tariff and salt tax peoceeds not being applied regularly to their repayment.

The outstanding amount of these foreign and domestic loans is estimated at 600,000,000 *gen* to mention those belonging to the Finance Department alone, and those belonging to the Communications Department are estimated at over 200,000,000 *gen.*

As a natural consequence, Government payments have been liable to be delayed, the amount in arrears at the end of September, 1922 having been 134,000,-000 *gen* for military and police expenses and 63,800,000 *gen* for administrative expenses, even the Government officials not being regularly paid.

The Central Government thus faces exhaustion of financial resources, with the national revenue going mostly to the provinces to pay for their expenses, and every provincial Government is also destitute of funds to meet its expenditure, which is yearly expanded with the increase in war expenditure. A good income from the salt tax was lost upon the republicanization of the country, the decifit being covered temporarily by such makeshifts as the issue of provincial bonds or treasury notes, the overissue of bank notes, excessive coinage, the selling of Government property, the raising of loans and the collection of taxes in advance.

Nothing good by local administrations has been accomplished, while the people have been as much taxed as before and have been in fear for their lives through the diminution of the military caste.

The financial straits of the central and local Government cannot be relieved by means of foreign or domestic loans, the flotation of which is impossible in the existing national condition. The traditional financial policy of the Republic to patch up financial difficulties by means of loans being no longer available, it is feared that not only will it be harder and harder for China to re-establish her polity and her fortunes, but she will become bankrupt or have to be placed under the international control of the Powers, if things should be left as they are.

(To Be Continued)

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A History of the Japanese Stage

VI

By F. Yamazaki

NAKAMURA Utayemon the First was a representative actor in Kyoto and Osaka in the Kansei era, being on the stage from the 4th year of Shotoku to the third year of Kansei. A son of Shunan Oseki, a doctor in Kanazawa, he left his father's house in his boyhood.

After years of a wandering life, he took to the stage at the age of 17 under Nakamura Genzayemon, being called Utayemon. He specialized in the part of villains as his master did. He first appeared before a Kyoto audience in the 2nd year of Kanpo and was soon in popular favour. He stayed there for five years and went then to Osaka, where he was for ten years.

In the 7th year of Horeki, he visited Yedo and performed at the Ichimura Theatre. Here he gained popularity, too. He stayed in Yedo for six years, in which he played up to Ichikawa Danjuro the Fourth.

In the 11th year of Horeki, he came back to Osaka, where he impersonated very successfully Nippon Danyemon, a great robber, which was popularly spoken of as the character most suitable for him for life. For a time, he played in Osaka, Kyoto and Yedo. When he was 68 years of age, he transferred his name to Nakamura Tozo, one of his pupils, he himself being called Kagaya Utashichi. Still he did not retire from the stage. He died at the age of 78 in the 2nd of Kansei.

The role of villains was his forte. He successfully played the part of men of upright character, idiots and jealous or revengeful persons.

One who came after him and was famous as a player of villains was Asao Tamejiro (1735-1804). He was born in Kyoto. At first, he was a strolling player. In the 6th year of Horeki, when he was 22 years of age, he first appeared on the Osaka stage. Later, he roamed again and re-entered the theatrical world in Osaka in the 10th year of Horeki. Since then, he was gradually promoted in position, as his ability was publicly appreciated. In the 8th year of Tenmei, he visited Yedo and played in company with Ichikawa Danjuro the Fifth. Afterwards, he came back to Osaka, where he died in the 1st year of Bunka at the age of 70. He was of small build. He had a clear voice and was clever at dancing. His style had two sides of excellence. On one side it was light and humorous and on the other, it was heavy and gave the impression of hatefulness. He made clever use of these two sides in playing villains. His inpersonation of honest old men was not so successful.

Typical leaders in Kyoto and Osaka in the same age were Nakayama Bunshichi and Arashi Sangoro the Second.

Nakayama Bunshichi (1731-1813), an adopted son of Nakayama Shinkuro, who was a famouse actor in the Horeki era,

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made his first appearance on the Osaka stage at the age of 7. At first, he took the role of girls. When he was 16 years of age, he played the leading part in a company at a Kyoto theatre with success. He won a reputation as a player of leaders and made himself an actor of the first rank. In the 2nd year of Tenmei, he retired from the stage on account of chronic foot trouble and died at the age of 83 in the 10th year of Bunka.

He was stout and spoke fluently. He excelled in the soft and sorrowful expression of art. But he was not very dignified and this limited the sphere of his art.

After he retired from the stage, Kataoka Nizayemon the Seventh visited him and questioned him about the posture-dance of Ranpei, which Kataoka was to play at a Kyoto theatre. He went into detail in answer. But Kataoka could not remember exactly the explanation and after leaving Nakayama's, he called Yamaneko, a geisha, who was good in that dance, to learn it from her. When the play was started, he invited Nakayama to the theatre, asking his opinion of the dance. Nakayama told Kataoka that it resembled Yamaneko's dance and was different from what he had taught. Kataoka blushed and having told the truth, he received other important advice from Nakayama.

Arashi Sangoro the Second (1732-1803) was as renowned as Nakayama Bunshichi. He lost his father, Arashi Sangoro the First, at the age of 8, when he made his debut in Osaka. For a number of years, he played between Kyoto and Osaka, where his ability was somewhat appreciated. In the 7th year of Meiwa, he first appeared on the Yedo stage. In the 9th year of Kansei, he retired from the stage and died at the age of 72 in the 3rd year of Kyowa. He was undersized. He looked very fine and had a clear voice. He was skilled in plays of love affairs and posture-dances. In his last stage days, he took an interest additionally in plays of realistic and military affairs. He was more famous than his father.

Arashi Hinasuke, Ichikawa Danzo the Fourth and Onoye Shinshichi were his juniors and were famous, too.

Arashi Shinasuke (1741-1796) came to Yedo at the age of 7, accompanying his father, the famous Arashi Kotama, when he was given his name by Ichikawa Danjuro the Second, who saw a promising actor in him. He came out on the Osaka stage at the age of 11 in the 1st year of Horeki and was favourably reputed as a player of the role of children. For the subsequent 16 years, he chiefly played young women.

Later, in the 4th year of Anyei, when he was 35 years age of, he gave up the playing of young women for that of the leading part. By this time, his style had undergone a change. He was gradually elevated in position, until at last he was ranked first. He died at the age of 56 in the 8th year of Kansei.

He was stout. He gave up feminine roles, as he had put on too much flesh to impersonate the gentle sex. He did not gain much fame while he played as women, but his ability was highly recognized popularly in leading parts. He was good at any role of old and young men, the good and the wicked, being considered as an unequally talented actor.

He excelled most in the impersonation of bad court nobles. He was also skilled in posture-dancing. He had the reputation of being arrogant. All actors contracted for one year, but he often changed the theatres in a year. When condemned for it, he said that, he was too valuable to be engaged for one year. He had a strong aversion to an appeal to vulgar taste, and purposely omitted parts of a play, which the common spectators applauded. He was of opinion that no actor was truly proficient in art, unless his spectators were deeply impressed with his performance after the drop of the curtain. Among their pupils, the most noted were

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Kataoka Nizayemon the Seventh, Arashi Koroku the Fourth and Seki Sanjuro.

Ichikawa Danzo the Fourth (1745-1808), born in Kyoto, made his debut at the age of 13. Later, he became a pupil of Nakamura Tomijuro the First, and then he came to Yedo at the age of 24, becoming a pupil of Ichikawa Danzo the Third. He perfomed at the Ichimura Theatre, the first time that he went on the stage of a big theatre. One year afterwards, he appeared before a Kyoto audience, and later again came to Yedo, where he stayed for 13 years. In the meantime he was adopted by his master, to whose name he succeeded upon his death. He won distinction. Later, he visited Osaka. For the subsequent 15 years, he played at Kyoto and Osaka, and then he came back to Yedo, where he performed at the Morita Theatre. He did not long stay in Yedo, but left it for Osaka three years later. He died at the age of 64 in the fifth year of Bunka.

He was facile, owing perhaps to his having been trained at small theatres, whose actors were called upon to play all sorts of parts, from his childhood, and not at large theatres as other great actors did. He was skilled not only in posture-dancing but in transformation. In the *Chushingura*, he impersonated seven persons, which proves his dexterity and versatility. He was, however, mostly in his element, when he played the role of military men and other serious persons. It was his strong as well as weak point that he was too steady in acting, which was always accompanied by criticisms of cheerlessness or extreme strictness. This was perhaps his effort in defiance of the showy acting of the popular Arashi Hinasuke and Arashi Sangoro. He was most successful in acting the part of simple-minded or arrogant old men. He was undignified and unimpressive, which was another defect. He won applause by the display of super-excellent action at the moment of the curtain being dropped.

Onoye Shinshichi (1745-1809), who was born in Yedo, was a pupil of Onoye Kikugoro. He made his debut at the Ichimura Theatre, Yedo, at the age of 11. He came to Osaka at the age of 20 and stayed there for 12 years, in which he grew famous. He died of paralysis at the age of 65. He was good at impersonating solid or soft or humorous men and not pure lovers. He was built small. He was dignified, more suitable for the impersonation of a daimyo than an ordinary samurai. He was plain and not tenacious, avoiding exaggeration in wording and being natural. Besides, there were Mihogi Gizayemon the Third (1731-1794), Banto Iwagoro (1732-1795) and Yamamura Giyemon (1736-1803,) all of whom were noted contemporary actors in Osaka and Kyoto.

While Osaka and Kyoto had Nakumura Utayemon and Asao Tamejuro as distinguished performers of villains, there were in Yedo two great actors, Nakamura Nakazo and Matsumoto Koshiro the Fourth, brilliant figures as villains and as leading men respectively.

Nakamura Nakazo (1736-1790), son of a ronin, Fukagawa, Yedo. He was bereaved of his parents in his childhood and was adopted at the age of 5 by Shigayama O-shun, a dancer and head of the Shigayama school, which was foremost in Yedo, her husband being a noted *nagauta* vocalist known as Nakayama Kojuro. He was brought up under the strict education of his foster parents.

At the age of 7, he became a pupil of Nakamura Denkuro the Second, an actor. His father wished him to succeed him as a *nagauta* vocalist. But he was not gifted for it, as he was slow in learning *nagauta* and had too deep a voice for it. He made his first appearance on the stage at the Nakamura Theatre at the age of 11. He learned dancing from his mother and master. He was elegant in manner and looked very fine. He was favoured by daimyo and hatamoto.

At the age of 15, he came to play the role of young men instead of children. He was loved by a wealthy person, who gave him a house and a wine shop. He married a daughter of Kineya Kisaburo

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the Sixth, a famouse samisen player, at the age of 17.

Soon afterwards, his foster father died, which was followed by the death of his foster mother. His wife succeeded to the Shigayama family as a dancer, but in reality, he himself taught dancing to her pupils. On the stage, he was subjected to insult by his fellow actors on account of his lack of art, when it happened that his wife becam seriously ill. He was driven to despair and attempted suicide. He was given to dissipation and became unable to make a living.

Fortunately, his wit on the stage was appreciated by Ichikawa Danjuro the Fourth, who favoured him like a pupil. Enccouraged by this, he applied himself to his art so earnestly that he was nicknamed the Maniac for Art.

This attracted the public notice. He gave up taking the leading part and exclusively played the role of villains. He was most skilled in impersonating those in love affairs. In the *Chushingura*, he played Sadakuro after the model of a *ronin*. He was so successful in it that he was greatly elevated in the public estimation.

In the 7th year of Anyei, he was promoted to the leadership of a company and performed at the Morita Theatre, helping Ichikawa Danjuro the Fifth, the son of Ichikawa Danjuro the Fourth, whose favour he enjoyed like a pupil.

His indefatigable toil and labour for twenty-four years from the age of 19 made him an actor of the highest grade.

The Nakamura Theatre, to the management of which he succeeded after his master, fell into difficulties with a series of misfortunes. He helped it financially by disposing of his family effects. Then the theatre was destroyed by a fire. He was badly off and was engaged in Osaka, where his skill on the stage struck the arrogant Arashi Hinasuke with admiration.

He died at the age of 55 in the 2nd year of Kansei. He was a man of fine looks with a splendid physique. With a good knowledge of dancing, his movements on the stage were excellent. He had the defects of being too eager to make innovations and of being cynical in new interpretations.

Matsumoto Koshiro the Fourth (1737-1802), who was born in Kyoto, came to Yedo, where he made his debut at the Ichimura Theatre at the age of 8 under Segawa Kikunojo. At the age of 21, he became a pupil of Ichikawa Danjuro the Fourth. He played the role of lovers. He succeeded to the name of Matsumoto Koshiro as its fourth generation in the first year of Anyei. He became the leader of a company at the Nakamura Theatre in the 7th year of Anyei. He died at the age of 66 in the 2nd year of Kyowa. He was very fine looking and facile. But he was not suited for impersonating villains. He was apt to joke in any part he played which had often the result of tingeing grave scenes with humour.

He was a good dancer and succeeded as the hero in posture-dances as Nakamura Nakazo did as the support in them. He worked strenuously at the Ichimura Theatre with the determination to relieve its financial distress as the leader of its actors. He was greatly patronized by the Yedô people on account of this character.

At first, he was on bad terms with Ichikawa Danjuro the Fifth, which culminated in the retirement of all the pupils of the latter from the theatre. He was then associated with Onoye Kikugoro and soon separated from him after a quarrel. This was on account of his immoral conduct, and it somewhat ill affected his popularity. Still he retained popularity with a section of the people.

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Social Problems of Agricultural Life in Japan

By Dr. Takeo Ono

II

THE unfavourable relationship between the landlords and their tenants, as we have seen, came into prominence in the years 1919-1920.

At first the peasants, tactics of waging war against their landlords were based upon force. At the outset, they make a combined demand to their landlord to lower the rents, and in case the latter refused to comply they would rise in revolt and carry out their demonstration by loudly ringing the temple bells and then visiting the landlords in formidable force, and at night by kindling monster bonfires in the midst of their village.

If sometimes the landlord were ill in bed, the discontents would send in their representatives and gain their point by menace, or sometimes they resort to sham incendiarism by kindling a fire very close to the house of the landlord, and when the house threatened to catch fire their representatives would enter and press their demands.

But this violence was liable to legal punishment and little productive of practical benefits. So that, nowadays the peasants have learned better.

They have adopted milder yet more effective measures for gaining their object.

They pay their rent to the amount that suits their convenience but short of the fixed rate, and keep silence. In spite of repeated demands from the landlord for full payment they remain indifferent. This is the so-called alliance for the non-payment of fixed rents. In pursuance of this method, they have gone a step further, to enter into alliance among themselves not to give up the lease of the estates they are holding, which practice they had not learned till very recently, whereas they were formerly in the habit of giving up the land as soon as it ceased to yield proportionate profits.

Under these tactics the landlords have found a way out, by resorting to a new device, which is to send workmen to the fields where the grain is growing, to reap the crops, before the farmers can prevent the proceeding. After this is done, a notice is put up, prohibiting the tenants from entering the fields without permission of the landlords. The frequent result of this high-handed measure is scuffles between the tenants and the landlords in the midst of the fields.

Another advantage has been gained by the landlords, as a result of the creation of a company endowed with the power to collect the rents on behalf of the landlords, through which all the necessary proceedings for collecting the rents even by legal action are put through.

The following list gives the number of cases of differences between the landlords and their tenants since 1917 to 1923 inclusive:

YEAR	CASES
1917	85
1918	256
1919	326

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YEAR	CASES
1920	408
1921	1,680
1922	1,578
1923	1,917

Thus it will be seen that for seven years the number of cases of those unfortunate struggles has increased about twenty times.

As to in what districts this kind of strife occurs most frequently the prefecture of Osaka heads the list, according to investigations made in 1924. The prefectures of Hyogo, Fukuoka, Kagawa Aichi, Yamanashi, Kanagawa, Saitama and Ehimé, come next in the order named.

In some cases, remarkable circumstances give prominence to some prefectures without regard to the comparative fewness of such occurrences. For instance, Okayama prefecture has become noted in this respect, for the occurrence of such struggles in the fields known as the Fujita fields on the coast of the Bay of Kojima. In these the Japan Peasant Union interfered in favour of the discontented peasants, which complicated the affair so much that it came to a dramatically fatal end. Another instance is that of Kumamoto prefecture, where perpetual strife is occurring with respect to the fields which were originally reclaimed and cultivated under the direction of the authorities of the country of Yashiro in that prefecture.

Prefectures where such strife is not known, are Okinawa, (Loo Choo islands), Aomori and Iwaté in the north-eastern provinces. Why in these particular prefectures strife is absent may be accounted for by the ignorance of the sarmers of their position and also of methods to oppose their landlords.

In the above-mentioned two prefectures in the north-eastern provinces the custom still prevails of looking on the tenants as fervants or vassals. But it is evident that this state of things will not continue long since in Niigata prefecture, where the farmers until at least five years ago were similarly in abject subjection to their landlords, at this day fierce contentions are going on between the peasants and the landlords simply by reason of the former's awakening to the interests of their class through the stimulus given by the Japan Peasants' Union. This consideration is causing great anxiety to those who have the welfare of the rural districts at heart.

The frequency of these struggles varies with the months of the year, too, according to the prospects of the crops. The month of November, when the harvest is taken in, is the most dismal month in the calendar of this agricultural strife, and next come the months of December, January, October, February, March, April. September, July, August, May and June in the order named. June figures least conspicuously in this respect, because in this month the farmers, being busily engaged about the fields planting the rice-plants, have no time to spare for carrying on the war against the landlords.

There are stages by which the demand for lowering the rents is pushed forward. In the first place the farmers make a mild demand for a discount in the rents, by pleading failure of the year's crops. This point gained, the farmers, who have had in the meanwhile their minds affected by notions about the economy of social life, push a demand for the permanent reduction of the amount allowed for the coming years.

This is a heavy blow at the income of the landlords. So the latter make their utmost exertions to preclude such a result, because, for instance, the reduction of 20 per cent. of rent means not only the loss of 20 per cent. of the annual dues but also the depreciation of the estate in value. The admission of such a reduction again means the surrender of a fifth part of the right of ownership of the part of the landlords. This the landlords can not well put up with. On the other hand, the surrender of 20 per cent. of the right of ownership, if effected in such a way, means an increase of 20 per cent. of the right of tenure on the part of the tenant, who will then make a commercial bargain of the advantage thus gained. If in ordinary dealings 20 per cent. of the

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acreage were taken away by the tenant from the landlord it would mean a serious affair, but in the case of the loss of 20 per cent. of the right of ownership involved in the farmer's adding 20 per cent. to his own right of leasehold the landlord can have only himself to blame for the misfortune.

But the winning party is not always the farmer or the landlord, but in most cases the village head or the local police magistrate intercedes in the affair and settles it amicably so that the interests of both sides are equally protected.

Organizations of tenant farmers, formed for presenting a united front to the landowners, are in a fair way of gradual development. The farmers forming these organizations are in the greatest number in Niigata prefecture, numbering 22,000. Then follow Okayama and Hyogo prefectures, each with 14,000 farmers, and Gifu and Yamanashi prefectures with 13,000 respectively. These organisations are presided over by the Japan Peasants Union.

This Union was brought into existence by Mr. Toyohiko Kagawa, the redoubtable champion in the labour movement of this country, but is now under the direction of Mr. Motojiro Sugiyama. This Union consists of two leagues, one of the farmers in the Kwantô (with its center in Tokyo) and the other for those in the Kwansai (with its center in Okayama) embracing altogether 37,000 members.

At the last general meeting of the union Mr. Sugiyama, the president, pointed out the necessity of oganising the village councils with all the members elected out of the Union, thus securing the ascendancy of the tenant farmers, and also that the reconciliation laws relating to the strife between the landlords and the tenants must be defied because of their avowed purpose of protecting the interests of the landlords. He said also that the members of the Union must refrain from purchasing estates from the landlords.

The point that deserves notice in this declaration is the fact that the purchasing of estates from the landlords is discouraged from the tactical point of view on the side of the tenants. They mean to worry the landlords by paying them whatever small amount of rent they care to pay, without taking the positive method of purchasing the estates.

According to investigations by the Japan Hypothec Bank, some paddy fields fetch a price of 1,000 yen per *tan* (A measure of land, equal to 0.245 acres), but the average price for that area is now 500 or 600 yen. The tenants, therefore, wish to reduce the price of the estates to 1 yen or 2 yen, by retaining their leasehold, and when that is achieved to start buying up the estates, raising the cry of the nationalisation of tne landed estates. It is unlikely that such a state of things can be brought about in less than five or ten years.

It is undeniable, however, that if all the tenants throughout the country were to join the Peasants Union, ready to act upon the orders of the directors of the Union to pay no rent and to buy no estates, the day would not be far distant when estates now valued at 1,000, or 900 or 800 yen per *tan* would fetch no more than 2 yen or indeed no price at all. This of course depends upon the ingenuity of the manoeuvres of the peasants.

The landlords are not inactive. They are devising many ways to cope with the threatening situation. The Government supports capitalism. On the whole all the policies that our Government adopts as well as the laws of Japan are based on the principle of protecting the right of property, and hence tend to protect the interests of the landowners. The tenants disregarding all these advantages of the landlords, have boldly ventured to put their claims before the landlords and are making inroads upon the right of the latter.

Some of the landlords have resorted to the expedient of disposing of all their landed property, to avoid further trouble. At first, this proceeding received praise from persons who knew nothing of the real motive of the landlord, for thus disposing of their lands to benefit their tenants.

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But now the public as well as the tenants have become wiser, and are not deceived by the trick of the landlords, whose real motive was to convert the money thus obtained from the sale of their lands into public bonds or debentures, or bonds of the Agricultural and Industrial Bank, from which they can draw interest enough to suffice for a comfortable living.

Moreover, by the propaganda of the magazine called *Land and Liberty*, the organ of the Peasants Union, the tenants have been roused to a sense of the inutility of responding to the invitation of the landlords to buy up their estate. They have learned to hold back, and to distress land lords by the reduced payment of rents.

The landlords have gone so far as to think of carrying on cultivation by themselves, after recovering all the fields now on lease from the disaffected tenants. This means a coming revolution in the farming traditions of this country.

The average area of fields under cultivation by each farmer is 1 *cho* (24.5 acres) or at most 1 *cho* and 2 or 3 *tan*.

If the landlords should recover all their lands from their tenants and begin farming by means of machinery on a grand scale the tenants, lot would become worse and they would be reduced to the state of common farm labourers. In this event questions of agricultural labour will arise, as in England and Italy, which will then cause an influx of farm labourers into the towns, and in turn the number of urban unemployed will increase. And finally the question of population will intimately affect all these labour problems.

As I said before, the seeds of the discord between the landlords and their tenants were sown at the beginning of the Meiji era when the reins of government was restored to the hands of the Emperor.

The unfortunate thing was that neither the landlords nor the Government were alive to the possibility of there ever occurring any serious strife between the two classes, so that no experiment has ever been made in Japan in carrying out agriculture by machinery on a large scale either at the Agricultural Experimental Station at Nishigahara in the Tokyo suburbs, or those at Osaka, Kyushu, or in the North-eastern provinces of Japan.

This inattention to the mechanical side of agriculture was a great fault on the part of our authorities. If experiments had been made in this direction in the middle of the Meiji era to prove the possibility of carrying out agriculture by some means or other on a large scale the landlords would have been saved much trouble.

But it is worth noticing that very recently the Imperial Agricultural Association, which is generally looked upon as an assembly of the landlords, has commenced experiments in this form of farming on the farms of certain landowners of areas ranging from 10 *cho* (24.5 acres) to 20 *cho* (49 acres).

If the results prove successful all the other large landowners not improbably will follow suit, thus checkmating the tenants. But if, on the other hand, the experiments fail the situation will be far worse for the landowning class, because then the tenants, no more open to oppression from the landowners, will resume their fierce campaign against the latter.

Granting that the labour strife now occurring in this country may be due to the Western notions that our labourers have imbibed, on the other hand the conflict between the landlords and their tenants, that we see to-day is by no means an imitation of the West. It was born out of the real economic needs of the farmers. Indeed our Government, ever solicitous to improve the condition of the tenants whose welfare affects greatly the economic life of the nation at large, have been devising various ways and means.

One of these is the allowing of means to the tenants to become independent possessors of land, by lending them enough money to buy the land, from the Hypothec Bank, the local Industrial Associations, the Post Office Life Assurance Bureau or the Agricultural and Industrial Bank. But this expedient has not been successful, because the tenants evade the

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obligation of paying the high interest of 7.5 % or 8 % for setting themselves up as independent farmers yet reaping no great material profit from such a change. The tenants, as I remarked before, have become wiser and are warning one another from the temptation to buy the estates from their landlords.

I must here point out another device which the Government was going to adopt, and from its adoption incalculable benefit would have occurred. But while the regulations which were intended to protect the interests of the tenants were on the *tapis* the inopportune announcement of this measure given out by the newspapers brought objections from the provincial landowners and shattered the hope of these regulations ever materializing.

These regulations under contemplation were directed towards ensuring the right of tenancy, in consequence of which the tenants were to be enabled to enjoy the leasehold, when once granted, for not less than seven years, and the landlords were to be prohibited from regaining their estates even though the rents due were in default for years.

The regulations were to provide that if a difference occurred over the rate of rent between the landlords and his tenants they were to bring the issue into the Court of Tenancy, to be established, for final judgment. This judgment was to be determinate, and therefore the rate of rent ordered by the Court was to be a fixed rate for the length of years agreed upon. These regulations are now being held up.

The next step that the Government resolved on taking was the issue of the Laws for Reconciliation between Landowners and Tenants which came into force in December of last year. According to these laws, Special Bailiffs, whose office is to take in hand affairs arising between landlords and tenants are appointed under each prefectural government with under-bailiffs, whom a Chief Bailiff superintends from the Department of Agriculture and Forestry.

In each district a small committee of local men charged with the task of reconciling the landlords and their tenants is appointed.

The effect of these laws has been so far very beneficial. But the laws have a shortcoming in that no judicial power is given to the special bailiffs thus appointed, so that their decisions of directions carry no weight of coercive power. In case, therefore, either of the parties shows no obedience to the decision given by the bailiff the thing stops there and no alternative is open to make the recalcitrant party obey. Under these circumstances, it is feared that these new regulations will have no permanent value and in five or six years will cease to be of any practical use.

Since the Japan Peasants Union is determined to push forward their claims to the right of tenancy in opposition to the right of landholding on the part of the landlords the prices of the lands will inevitably fall in consequence, and will deal a hard blow to the interests of the landlords. Therefore, the question of how to manage things to the satisfaction of both parties is the crisis confronting us.

It seems to me that the only practical solution of the problem is to be found in the promulgation of those regulations I have referred to for the benefit of the tenants, by which the rights of both the landlords and the tenants would be clearly defined, and thus the right of the tenants which is now, legally speaking, of a vague nature, being neither a permanent lease nor a contract of hire, should be finally established. By this means the tenants would be enabled to pursue their work in peace and contentment on the fields, which, though they do not belong to them by right, would at least, in their minds be conceived as their own.

At all events, the various problems now engaging the attention of our authorities and social reformers concerning the agricultural life of this country await a satisfactory solution. The welfare of the rural districts has to do with the peace and happiness of the whole nation. These problems before the Japanese nation call for urgent attention.

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The Bible in Loo Choo Dialect

By Kan Higaonna

(I)

I UNDERSTAND that there is a copy of the Bible written in the Loo Choo dialect in the British Museum. Recently I have found that the famous Morrison library of books dealing with the Orient contains one, and also that Dr. Ichikawa, Professor of the Tokyo Imperial University has one in his justly famed library.

According to the records of the prefectural government, four books of the New Testament, that is, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John have been completely translated into the dialect of the islands. But upon personal inspection, I have found that those Bibles in the Morrison library and Dr. Ichikawa's consist of Luke, John, Acts and Romans. In this connection, therefore, I should like to know the contents of the one in the British Museum. If the books of Metthew and Mark were really not translated I have no materials at present to throw light upon why this was so. But in the present instance, I shall omit discussion on this point and content myself with recounting the general circumstances that led to the translation of the Bible into the language of the islands.

On April 30, 1846 a merchant ship, commanded by Capt. McCheye entered the harbour of Naha, capital city of the islands, and weighed anchor on May 1, leaving behind six persons out of the 20 passengers on board. These six persons were Dr. and Mrs. Bernard Jean Bettelheim, their two children, a boy and a girl, and two Chinese interpreters.

Dr. Bettelheim was born at Pressburg in Hungary in 1811, and passed his childhood at a school kept by his uncle, Moses Saper. Later, he studied medicine supporting himself, and in 1836 he obtained the degree of M.D. at Padua. In 1843 he married Miss Elizabeth Mary Barwick. Years before he had received baptism from the Rev. William Lewis and resolved to become a minister. He was adapted to the career he had chosen by reason of his knowledge of medicine as well as his linguistic talent which was shown in the fact of his being a master of thirteen languages. As to the biography of Dr. Bettelheim the Rev. Earl R. Bull wrote a detailed biography of him in the issues of the *Japan Evangelist* for February, March and May, 1925.

In 1816, Capt. Basil Hall and his party visited the Loo Choo islands, and on this occasion the devout young officers of the party took it into their heads to organise missionary work in the islands, which at last materialised in the form of the Loo Choo Naval Mission. The first Missionary sent to the islands by this Mission was Dr. Bettelheim.

At the time of his arrival, the islands, under the sway of the powerful Satsuma clan, was half-independent. Of course the islands were then under the ban of Tokugawa Shogunate Government against Christianity. Therefore the new missionary was the first pioneer to carry a large cross into the islands. The authorities of the islands and the officials of the Satsuma clan came to the decision to allow the residence of the missionary and his family Gokokuji Temple at Nanmin of the western coast of Naha.

Dr. Bettelheim had two savage dogs, which were his escort during his sojourn of eight years in that country. The dogs were not orginally brought there by the doctor, but were taken care of after they were left behind by a French vessel in 1844. Dr. Bettelheim wore spectacles and so the islanders called him "Nanmin un Gancho" or when seen on the road with his dogs they called him "In-Gancho." In the Loo Choo language *In* means "dog" and *Gancho* means "spec-

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tacles." But now this latter compound has passed into the language to be generally used as a term of imprecation, thus incidentally showing how difficult and almost hopeless his work had been in the face of the opposition and hatred of the islanders against him.

Diplomatic affairs since 1844 put the authorities of the islands on guard, who, therefore, placed guards in places of strategic importance. The residence of Dr. Bettelheim also was placed under strict watch by officers who were lodged in a watch-box erected at the gates of Gokoku-ji Temple. These watchmen kept strict vigilance upon his every movement, dogging his footsteps wherever he went, to prevent his coming into contact with the inhabitants. These men were called, in the language of the islands, "chikusaji" whereas Dr. Bettelheim in his letters misspelt the word as "chikusagi." They were most active in interfering with his work, scattering the populace as they gathered round the minister on the road when he was going to preach or by ordering the inhabitants to shut their doors and windows, running ahead of the preacher. They picked up Bible tracts or pictures of the Crucifixion from the road where they were scattered for distribution to prevent them from falling into the hands of the people.

But it must be added in justice to the authorities, these pamphlets, pictures and other objects, indeed sometimes coins, as they were thus picked up, were invariably returned to Dr. Bettelheim who complacently accepted them and repeated the process. This non-success of his efforts at last brought the indefatigable minister to think that the secret to obtain victory must lie in forestalling the activities of the officials. He redoubled his efforts. In the end, the authorities were tired out and ceased to return the picked-up things as before but kept them and later dumped them in a pile before him as he was going to leave the islands. These things were then packed and sent after him.

Besides the watchmen above referred to, Dr. Bettelheim was encumbered with two or three or sometimes four or five interpreters, who came to the temple every day. These latter were entrusted with interpreting and also watching the movements of the minister. They as well as the watchmen were irksome companions to Dr. Bettelheim and his family. Once Dr. Bettelheim appealed to the Hongkong Government for protection against interference. In 1850 the steamer *Renard* brought a written protest against the unjust treatment of Dr. Bettelheim from the then Premier Palmerstone to the authorities of the islands, in which was reference to the shameful treatment "to track his footsteps whenever he left his house." But Dr. Bettelheim owed his success in having made a translation of part of the Bible into the Loo Choo dialect to the assistance of these interpreters.

Describing the interior of the doctor's study which was also used as the reception-room, the Russian commodore who visited the islands in January, 1854, says in his diary that all the furniture betokened simplicity; on the table were promiscuous piles of Japanese and Chinese books, among which were some Bibles in the Loo Choo language, and adjoining rooms were a small dispensary and a stack-room for books. The commodore mentions that there was nothing in the study which had any pretension to ostentation or ornament save a silver vase with a flower on the table.

Among his interpreters and assistants, the one who was most intimate with his was Icharazichi. Icharazichi was born in 1818 at Shuri in the islands and going to China in 1830 for study learned there mandarin Chinese and English. After a few years' stay, he came back and entered the service of the Government. He was chiefly engaged in diplomatic affairs, and generally spoke Chinese as an interpreter. He could speak English for ordinary communication.

Commenting upon him, Commodore Perry, the famous American naval officer said:

The interpreter of the regent was a

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young native, named Icharazichi, who had been educated at Pekin, where he remained three years. He could speak a little English, but Chinese was the language of communication. This youth had some knowledge both of United States history and geography. He was not unacquainted with the character and conduct of Washington, and called him "a great mandarin."

Dr. Bettelheim, long before he came to the Loo Choo islands, had learned the Chinese language and its characters. His papers addressed to the authorities of the islands were written in Chinese characters, with his signature thus 英臣伯德合親筆 (an English subject, Bettelheim, personally written by himself).

As his knowledge of Chinese was sufficiently good he turned his attention to the acquirement of the Loo Choo language and the Kana alphabet of Japanese. He meant to learn the *kana* alphabet through his knowledge of the Chinese characters. According to the reports of the authorities of the islands, his study of the *kana* alphabet commenced in June, 1846, that is, about a month after his arrival. He repeatedly asked for any available textbooks for doing so from the authorities. But the latter took care to refuse the request. But his importunities often carried his request through. The following books were openly supplied to him by the Government.

1. Selected Proverbs from Confucius' Analects. (Supplied to him June 3, 1851)
2. *Shogaku* (a Chinese classic) Orally Interpreted. (*do.* June 20, 1851)
3. *Chuyo* (Japanese reprint). *do.* August 21, 1851)
4. *Shokyo* (a Chinese classic). (*do.* December 20, 1851)

On December 27, 1851, he was refused a Dictionary of Words written in *kana*. Not a few books he obtained from private persons. In this way he intended to master *kana* so as to be able to make a translation of the Bible in *kana*.

A style of Japanese indoor dancing of children.

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The Robber's Trap

IT was in the early beginning of the Meiji era that the incident told in the following story occurred. In a certain city of this country there was a great draperer's shop, and opposite lived an old cooper who was plying his trade on a small scale. Here we may mention that a Japanese cooper makes pails, kegs, tubs, etc. of the staves of cedar timber, strengthened by an iron or bamboo hoop.

One day, the old cooper, who had turned sixty, was at work in his shop, splitting bamboo, and on looking up from his work, perceived a fine gentleman in the mercer's shop, making purchases. This gentleman was ordering different pieces of stuff to be brought out before him, which, however, did not apparently catch his fancy.

The head-clerk, thereupon, casting his look back, ordered the apprentice boys to fetch more pieces that would be likely to please the customer. Taking advantage of this interval, the gentleman stood up and went to a post in the walls with his umbrella, one of the European umbrellas which were then beginning to be imported into this country. He then stood it against the post without any apparent object. By and by, the gentleman purchased a piece that seemed to suit his fancy and went away.

All this while, the old cooper was following every movement of the gentleman with rapt attention. In the evening, the cooper came to visit the master of the goods shop. The head-clerk told the cooper that if what had brought him to see his master was not of serious nature he himself would hear what he had to say. But the cooper requested a private interview with the master on account of the importance of his business.

The cooper was led into an inner room and there sat closeted with the master. After due formalities of greetings were gone through, the cooper, with an air of serious sincerity, began:

"Sir, now I would like to forewarn you that either this night or to-morrow night, or anyhow one of these days a great thief will certainly break into your house. Acting on this foreknowledge, I assure you that I shall entrap this unwelcome visitor."

The mercer, astonished and half suspecting the motive of the cooper, demanded to know how he came by such knowledge. The cooper, nevertheless, did not care to impart the secret to the merchant. But confident in his knowledge, he offered to act as night-watch himself and also recommended precautionary measures to be taken against the attack.

The merchant consented and set to making preparations. About five young fellows, including the head-clerk and some apprentices, besides a few stalwart workmen in the constant service of the house were pressed into the night guard. The cooper stationed himself on a straw mat specially laid for the occasion on the ground within the house. It was arranged that when the cooper should give the signal all the others would at once rush to his aid.

The night advanced and silence reigned everywhere. The young men of the night guard were excited and wakeful.

But they gradually fell asleep and only the cooper kept his vigil, sitting erect. The night passed without event. The cooper before returning to his house assured the men that he would come again in the evening.

The second night came and the men made the same provision against the expected danger. But the night passed away without any mishap. They began to grumble and complain that the cooper, probably owing to the slackness of his business, had conceived the plan to get money from the mercer for the trouble he had taken against the pretended intrusion. But the mercer, being a great merchant, took no notice of these complaints and judging it wise to take such

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precautions as well in ordinary times pursued the same measures.

The third night came. After midnight all was quiet outside. Just then a light footstep was heard to approach the door. Within, the vigilant cooper alone caught this sound. His attention was alert. Soon a grating sound followed. An auger was applied to the door from outside and a hole was bored through. And then the cut-out piece was fitted into the hole again and fixed there with pomade, without any trace of mischief done.

Morning dawned, but the cooper did not tell any one of what had happened during the night. One of the apprentices derisively said, "The thief did not come, do you say? What a lazy thief he is!" The cooper did not drop even a hint that the hole had been made, throught which a hand could easily unfasten the bolt. He simply answered, "We must be most on our guard to-night."

The fourth night came. All the men of the guard who had come to look upon the eagerness of the cooper as foolish madness now no longer did their duty. They all fell sound asleep. On the contrary, the cooper kept his eyes wide open. Midnight came. Then were heard stealthy footsteps, indicating some four or five persons approaching the front of the house, almost inaudible.

They stopped outside just before the hole which had been made the previous night. The fitted-in piece stopping up the hole was now pushed inside to the ground where the cooper was sitting. A moment after, an umbrella was thrust through the hole and was turned about in the dark within the house, where no light was burning. Soon the umbrella was withdrawn and next came something like a hand, which moved about likewise in the dark. Any one might have been tempted to grasp the hand, but the prudent cooper did not do so, only he seemed intent on looking at the eyes of the owner of the hand, glinting in the dark.

Soon the hand was withdrawn. Again came in something like a hand. This time it went straight to the bolt of the door and unfastened it. At that critical moment, the cooper who had remained inactive now darted forward and gripped the hand firmly. He cried out, "I have caught the thief! Awake! Hurry!"

Roused from their slumber, all the men of the shop sprang up and hurried to the scene in surprise and confusion, while the captured robber loudly cried, "I'm undone! Escape, quick," and the steps of stampeding feet followed. The shopmen coming, the door was opened. Some of them ran in pursuit of the fleeing robbers. The captured robber was at once bound with ropes. All his comrades, however, escaped.

Around the cooper stood the admiring shop-people with grateful looks. The master of the shop by this time appeared and heaped thanks upon him, for the vigilance he had kept up for nights together. The grateful master asked the cooper, "How on earth could you divine that the robbers were coming? You must certainly be possessed of extraordinary foresight."

The cooper answered, smiling, "As I was at work in my shop I happened to look towards your shop when I perceived a gentleman making purchases there. I noticed him secretly going to the wall and stand his umbrella there, from which strange action I could easily read his intent. He measured the height from the ground to the bolt. Thieves that lay such a plan are not to be easily dealt with. They are bold robbers and generally come in a gang of three or four. Therefore, I acted as I did. And this knowledge secured the success of my plan."

The mercer was the more struck with admiration and gave great rewards to the cooper though the latter was unwilling to accept them. The captured robber confessed his guilt, but refused to reveal the identity of his accomplices. But the police made inquiries on the evidence given by the prisoner's confessions as to the character of his accomplices and successfully tracked them down. It turned

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out that the first captured robber was the leader of the gang.

The latter expressed his eager wish to know the name and character of his captor. The police suspiciously asked him whether he felt any grudge against his captor and intended to have revenge upon him when set free. The man answered that he harboured no such mean intent but simply wished to know what sort of a man he was. The police asked the reason.

So the robber made the curious answer: "First I must tell you that this man who made me prisoner must be a greater rogue than myself, because any honest person would have jumped outright at the umbrella which I poked through the hole, but this man did not do so, and when next I thrust an imitation hand through the hole and moved it about still this man kept his peace and did not grasp it, whereas any ordinary person would have been certainly tempted to catch at it, in which case I might have had the chance to escape. But when I thrust in my own hand and succeeded in unfastening the bolt, this cunning man flew to the hole and seized my hand in his iron grasp. From such cunning as he has displayed I conclude that he is a blackguard worse than myself. Therefore, I suggest that you inquire into this matter."

The police authorities, struck with surprise and curiosity, at the robber's philosophy, summoned the cooper and told him what the robber had said with regard to his character.

The cooper then showed great chagrin and began in a regretful tone to give his reminiscences: "Thus openly accused of bad character, I am ready to confess my past history. In truth, until more than a dozen years ago, I was myself the leader of a thieves' gang. Indeed, in my eyes such a paltry artifice as was used by the robber is mere child's-play. Having been myself acquainted with the ways of robbers I could easily foresee what would result from the incident of the fellow's umbrella. In the days of the Tokugawa Shogunate government, I committed almost every sort of offence, short of murder and rape. But when the rule of the Shogun came to an end and the Emperor resumed the government I judged that my days of villainy were over. So since the new reign set in I turned over a new leaf and set myself up in the cooper's trade in this town in which I was brought up as a child. Some of my old pals entered into honest trades like myself, but others are, I hear, still rogues. Indeed, when the first intimation of the robber's design came to me I hesitated to tell it to the mercer for fear that I might thereby give a clue to my past guilty life. But my human feelings at last overruled my selfishness, and prompted me to give warning to the mercer, for whom I felt great good-will. Now that I have thus related my past history I can only await punishment."

But the police did not prosecute the old offender because the Imperial amnesty had exempted old crimes committed before the Meiji era began.

Of course the confession of the old cooper soon spread in the town, but the townspeople instead of being angered, felt more esteem for the honest old man.

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Economics and Finance

Raw Cotton to be Purchased Next Year.—According to the investigation of the Spinners' Association, the total amount of raw cotton imported during the business year beginning September, 1924 and ending August, 1925 was 3,587,000 bales. The figure for 1924-1925 increased thus over 1,220,000 bales over 1923-1924. The question is whether the amount was purchased necessarily by Japanese spinners, and if more than necessary, what will be their future purchases.

In this connection, a well-informed observer states that the principal reasons for the increase are an increase in the number of spindles installed, the activity of domestic requirements for cottons, an increase in the Chinese demand for Japanese cottons due to the Shanghai strike, delay in the import of a certain amount of raw cotton this business year, the landing of over 100,000 bales of India cotton in Japan instead of Shanghai due to the strike and the purchasing of a pretty good amount by Japanese spinners in May and June, when thep rice was low.

It seems to be certain, however, that purchases were more than necessary, in view of which the future buying will decrease, say, to 1,700,000 bales of Indian cotton and to 700,000 or 800,000 bales of American cotton, which is however, a very rough calculation. The following give the goods imported in the last-business year:—

Cotton	Imported for the Year Sept., 1924-Aug., 1925 Bls.	Same Period, 1923-1924 Bls.
Indian . . .	2,081,346	1,343,728
American . .	878,954	566,517
Chinese . . .	585,595	435,038
Egyptian . . .	41,852	19,884
Miscellaneous .	—	1,293
Total . . .	3,587,747	2,366,459

Actual Yield of Barley, Rye and Wheat.—It is announced by the Department of Agriculture and Forestry that the actual yield of barley, rye and wheat in Japan (excluding Hokkaido) in 1925 amounted to 22,393,912 *koku*, increasing 1,686,800 *koku*, or 8.1 per cent. over the previous estimate, 3,650,500 *koku*, or 19.5 per cent. over the actual yield in 1924 and 2,203,600 *koku*, or 10.9 per cent. over the average for the past five years.

Of the above total yield, barley was 8,772,079 *koku*, increasing 401,800 *koku*, or 4.8 per cent. over the previous estimate, 751,300 *koku*, or 9.4 per cent. over the actual yield in 1924 and 495,100 *koku*, or 6 per cent. over the average for the past five years, rye was 7,568,806 *koku*, increasing 859,200 *koku*, or 12.8 per cent. over the previous estimate, 2,043,800 *koku*, or 37 per cent. over the actual yield in 1924 and 1,068,000 *koku*, or 16.4 per cent. over the average for the past five years, and wheat was 6,053,027 *koku*, increasing 425,500 *koku* over the previous estimate, 855,200 *koku*, or 16.5 per cent. over actual yield in 1924 and 460,500 *koku*, or 11.8 per cent. over the average for the past five years.

The Import Duties of Iron to be Raised.—The Government is considering an enhancement of the present import duties on iron, in order to protect the domestic industry, and it is especially desired to establish protective duties for pig iron.

During 1924, the importation of pig iron amounted to 441,944 tons valued at 23,087,222 yen, that of bar, rod and other iron to 304,116 tons valued at 20,703,973 yen and that of iron sheet not galvanized to 933 tons valued at 99,882 yen.

The Department of Commerce and Industry wishes to raise the duties on all these goods to about 23 per cent. ad val., but the Department of Finances wishes it to be 25 per cent.

Private opinion is to enhance the duties

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to about 20 per cent. and to make them specific instead of ad. val. The importers of iron are of course opposed and as the raising of duties to 25 per cent. as advocated by the Finance Office will nearly stop the importation of foreign iron, it is necessary to consider the standpoint of the importers.

The Rice Crop.—The first official forecast of the rice crop for the present year was published on October 3rd. According to it, the crop is estimated to reach 61,494,210 *koku*, based on the conditions prevailing on September 20th, an increase of 4,323,797 *koku*, or 7.6 per cent. over the actual yield in 1924 and of 3,154,738 *koku*, or 5.4 per cent. over the average crop for the past five years.

Foreign Trade for September.—During September, the foreign trade of Japan amounted in value to 232,630,000 yen for exports and to 164,332,000 yen for imports, showing a balance of 68,298,000 yen in favour of exports. The following shows the value of staple exports and imports during September, 1925 and since January.

In Thousands of Yen

Staple Exports	Sept., 1925	Total Since Jan. 1925	Comp. with 1924	
Hulled and Unhulled Rice	346	5,241	4,438	Inc.
Peas and Beans	366	5,074	171	„
Marine Products	3,024	14,653	343	Dec.
Starch	22	196	17	Inc.
Tea	1,846	11,755	1,737	„
Refined Sugar	4,793	2,760	3,816	„
Beer	19	1,443	373	Dec.
Canned and Bottled Meats	1,672	11,153	5,135	Inc.
Waste and Floss Silk	3,826	20,529	5,410	„
Coal	3,435	24,457	10,715	„
Timber	1,961	15,223	5,207	„
Raw Silk	96,906	622,708	169,530	„
Cotton Yarn	10,262	92,074	2,007	„
Iron	634	5,376	287	„
Braid	1,160	8,359	1,934	„
Matches	729	672	194	Dec.
Silk Fabrics	8,870	87,581	9,172	„
Cotton Fabrics	40,629	313,911	73,403	„
Hosiery	3,123	23,439	7,450	Inc.
Hats and Caps	1,080	5,648	2,264	„
Buttons	723	6,133	524	Dec.
Paper	2,068	14,063	2,327	Inc.
Cement	361	2,861	1,235	„
Earthen and Porcelain Ware	3,971	25,726	6,312	„
Glass and Glass Manufactures	1,547	12,329	2,397	„
Insulated Wire	158	1,176	107	„
Iron Ware	1,168	11,223	1,245	„
Rubber Tyres	1,755	5,972	3,657	„
Machinery	878	9,043	1,037	Dec.
Toys	868	7,539	2,017	Inc.
Other Goods	35,314	26,396	672,248	„

Staple Imports

Hulled and Unhulled Rice	5,153	109,161	42,813	Inc.
Wheat	3,119	47,211	15,232	Dec.
Peas and Beans	2,608	52,412	10,792	Inc.
Eggs	391	9,571	2,630	Dec.
Sugar	9,354	4,436	7,986	Inc.
Crude Rubber	2,504	17,952	2,372	„
Raw Cotton	47,611	722,963	336,170	„
Flax and Hemp	3,386	18,131	234	„
Wool	4,576	97,477	29,561	„
Sulphate of Ammonia	2,966	2,387	716	„
Phosphorites	738	5,851	1,602	Dec.
Oil Cake	1,555	90,639	1,310	Inc.
Coal	1,757	17,823	5,254	Dec.
Ores	914	8,316	123	Inc.
Timber	5,043	56,822	49,174	Dec.
Bran	1,095	10,979	352	Inc.
Caustic soda and Soda ash	1,265	9,275	2,932	„
Coal Tar Dyes	182	4,629	5,900	Dec.
Woollen Yarns	4,409	38,622	14,165	„
Wood Pulp	1,345	11,806	3,722	Inc.
Iron	7,255	76,451	96,008	Dec.
Lead	1,126	11,201	1,808	Inc.
Volatile Oil	1,451	13,701	1,117	„
Korosene Oil	676	9,077	908	Dec.
Cotton Fabrics	543	9,243	267	Inc.
Woollen Fabrics	6,768	51,992	1,861	„
Paper	1,008	13,432	5,676	Dec.
Iron Nails	8	161	7,154	„
Watches & Parts Thereof	685	5,956	2,220	„
Machinery	6,960	99,917	33,584	„
Other Goods	37,268	312:293	81,136	„

The above figures for September are of Yokohama and 25 other ports and the total since January of all the ports of the country.

The exports and imports of gold and silver were as follows:—

(In Thousands of Yen)

	Sept., 1925	Total Since Jan. 1925	Comp. with 1924	
Exports	4,000	4,008	4,008	Inc.
Imports	16	154	3,820	Dec.
Total	4,016	4,162	188	Inc.
Excess of Export over Import	3,984	3,854		

Official Efforts to improve the San Francisco Line.—The official plan to improve the San Francisco stea-

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mer line, is regarded with much importance by the public as deciding the fate of the T. K. K. The Communications authorities are said to have, on September 12th last, showed to Mr. Asano of the T. K. K. an official plan for building three new steamers of 14,000 tons, to receive state aid of 2,700,000 yen. The company was thus informally advised to build these steamers, but it has been unable to meet the official desire, owing to its financial distress. The Government authorities thus stand in circumstances in which they will have to ask the N. Y. K. to run a San Francisco line instead of the T. K. K., as it is thought to be impossible to bring about the amalgamation of the two steamship companies, on account of the gap existing between each other's terms. The above decisive measure, if taken by the Government, will force the T. K. K. to be dissolved or amalgamated with the N. Y. K.

South American Office of the T. K. K.—At its Directors' conference on October 27th, the T. K. K. decided to open an office in Peru, South America.

The company is arranging for a reduction of its heavy oil price from three American oil companies by over 20 per cent. off $1.50 per barrel paid at present. As the yearly amount of American heavy oil purchased by it is about 100,000 tons, it will be able to economize yearly 500,000 or 600,000 yen.

Dye Stuffs Licensed During September.—During September, 1925, the importation of the following dyes was licensed under the License Law:—

Kind	Quantity Kilograms	Value Yen
Babic Dyes	8,356	73,760
Direct Dyes	25,404	109,224
Acid Dyes	11,010	61,105
Acid Mordant Dyes .	27,330	94,551
Other Mordant Dyes .	1,010	10,855
Sulphur Dyes . . .	900	4,260
Base Colours (not including Artificial Indigo	2,730	33,697
Artificial Indigo . . .	2,088	3,434
Miscellaneous Dyes .	15,330	32,039
Dyes for Specific Objects	416	2,875
Total	94,574	445,800
Intermediums . . .	5,750	18,068
Photo. Chemicals . .	907	2,634
Artificial Perfumery .	1,545	22,795
Drugs and Chemicals .	242	1,032
Other Goods . . .	2	46
Total	8,446	44,575

The Dye Stuff Encouragement Law:—In the *Official Gazette* of October 13th, an Imperial ordinance was issued under date of October 12th, fixing the date of enforcement of law No. 29 of 1925 to be October 15th, 1925. At the same time an Imperial ordinance was proclaimed, specifying 20 kinds of dyes under Art I Clause 3 of law No. 29 of 1925.

Spring Crop of Cocoons.—It is reported by the Department of Agriculture and Forestry that for the spring season of 1925, the number of silkworm rearing housese in Japan (except Hokkaido) amounted to 1,711,322, the amount of silkworm eggs gathered was 7,596,479 cards and the production of cocoons amounted to 42,865,505 *kwamme* valued at 445,143,043 yen.

As compared with the same season, 1924, the number of silkworm rearing houses shows an increase of 57,429, or 3.5 per cent. the amount of silkworm eggs gathered that of 60,808 cards, or 0.9 per cent. and the production of cocoons that of 3,441,142 *kwamme* or 8.7 per cent. in quantity and of 177,387,259 yen, or 66 per cent. in value.

Of the silkworm eggs produced, the white species was 5,448,873 cards, or 72 per cent. and the yellow species 2,147,607 cards, or 28 per cent. and of the cocoons produced, the white was 29,060,651 *kwamme*, or 68 per cent. and the yellow 13,804,854 *kwamme*, or 32 per cent. in quantity, the white was

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299,378,825 yen, or 63 per cent. and the yellow 145,764,218 yen, or 33 per cent. in value.

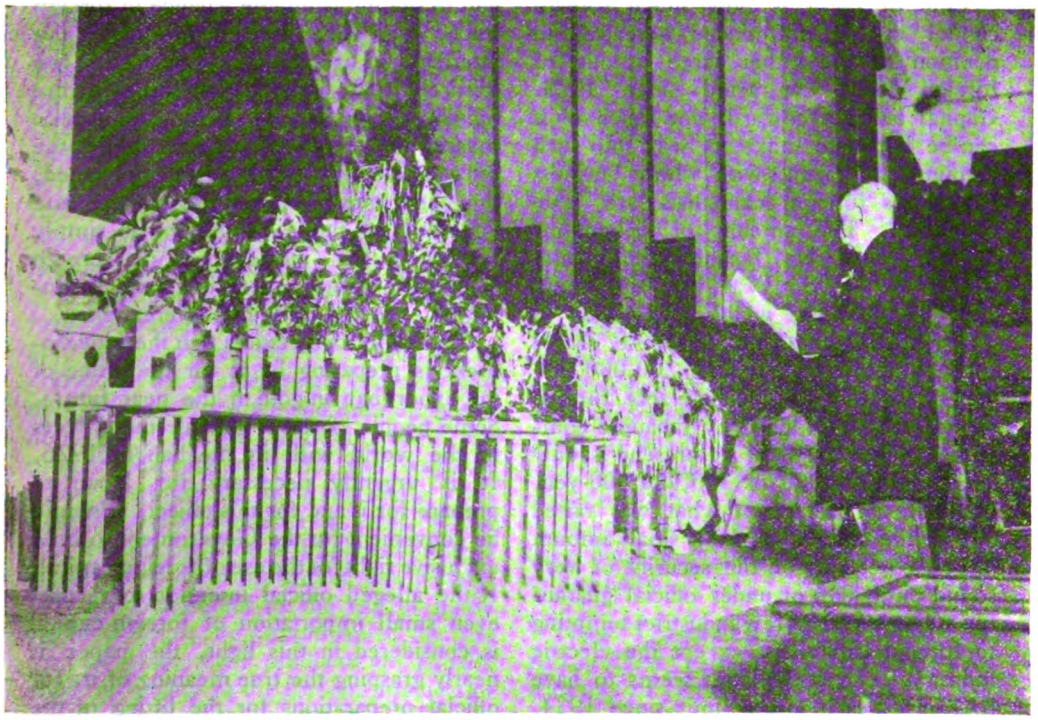
At the beginning of the season, the temperature was low in the North-Eastern, Kwanto, Tosando and Tokaido Districts, but it rose with the recovery of the weather. In the whole country, the climate was generally good, too. The mulberry crop was sufficient except in a part of the North-Eastern, Kwanto and Kushu districts, facilitating the growth of silkworm.

Tinned Crab.—In the past few years Japanese tinned crab has been in demand increasingly in England, America, Australia and other places. This year the exportation is expected to reach 200,000 cases valued at 9,000,000 yen. The following table shows the production and exportation of the goods since 1919.—

(In Thousands of Cases)

Year	Production	Exportation
1919	84	64
1920	78	54
1921	103	58
1922	131	74
1923	214	115
1824	189	127
1925 (Estimated).	255	185 (to Middle of Sept.)

While there goods have been yearly on the increase both in production and exportation, this year they show a greater increase than ever before.



Shinto Funeral of the Late Baron Hamao, President of the Privy Council, held at Tokyo Imperial University.

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From the Japanese Press

Date of Lifting Gold Ban.—The Government is alleged to have the intention to veto the introduction of foreign capital. There are different conjectures as to the motive for this. The most trustworthy is that the introduction of foreign capital will mean the payment of more interest, which is against the opinion of the financial authorities in connection with an improvement of the international balance of accounts. If the Government motive is actually this, there are two points which come into question, argues the *Oriental Economist* in its editorial of October 24th.

One of them is how much foreign capital can be introduced hereafter in addition to the rather large amout of foreign loans contracted since 1923. Capital being a coward, not much of it can be hoped to make its way into such a country as Japan, with whose business enterprises foreign capitalists are little familiar. The amount of debentures issued abroad by Japanese companies before the World War was only about 167,000,000 yen, which in addition to foreign subscriptions to Japanese shares made a total of less than 200,000,000 yen. Since 1923, considerable foreign capital was introduced by Japanese companies. Still the total at present is only about 350,000,000 or 356,000,000 yen, including the balance of what was raised before the war. Even this small amount has been got only on the security of very sound mortgages or under official guaranty. There can be few industries tempting to foreign capitalists, except the electric industry. Even the latter seems to have borrowed nearly to the limit since 1924. It is questionable if good will result from enacting a law vetoing foreign capital.

Japan has histherto found it necessary to rely upon foreign capital for her economic development. This is one reason for the continuance of the unfavourable balance in our foreign trade and the large amount of foreign capital introduced officially and privately, since the beginning of the Meiji era. This foreign money borrowing was nearly suspended during the World War. There was no fundamental change in the national conditions requiring foreign capital, but on the contrary re-construction after the earthquake has made foreign capital more helpful than before, which is proved by the fact that the Government is approving the flotation of Tokyo and Yokohama Municipal bonds abroad. Another doubtful point is, therefore, why the Government intends restricting the introduction of foreign capital by private parties. If it is simply because of its anxiety to put an end to the unfavourable balance of foreign trade, even for a time, for improving the international balance of accounts, it is too leisurely and weak a measure, in the opinion of the paper. Why does it take means to contract currency while the introduction of foreign capital is banned, the paper questions. It doubts the true intention of the Government in simply restricting the introduction of foreign capital for private enterprises, which cannot be expected to be large hereafter.

The paper conjectures that the Government is preparing by it for the lifting of the export ban on gold in the near future. Some people observe that all the Powers in the world will lift the ban in 1926. It is urgently necessary for Japan to prepare for it and for this object, it would be convenient for the Government to hold exclusive right for the use of foreign capital. If the alleged official intention to restrict even small importation of foreign capital is considered in this light, the paper is nearly grasping the true meaning of it, for official preparations for the lifting of the ban by the use of foreign capital may possibly be hindered unexpectedly even by a slight private attempt to bring in foreign capital.

The Government it is surmised will attempt to recover the yen to par before lifting the ban. The financial authorities are, however, perhaps aware of the im-

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possibility of doing so simply by resticting the private introduction of foreign capital, while they are most desirous of it. The only means to be adopted toward the object would be to cut down the par value in the opinion of the paper as has been advocated by it. The Government must be prepared for it, if it thinks it unavoidable to lift the export ban on gold in the near future.

Encouragement of Home Products.—The unfavourable tendency of foreign trade has been mitigated in a measure. Still the total balance stands against us to the amount of 360,000,000 yen, and it will be difficult for the amount to be diminished to less than 300,000,000 yen within this year even with a continuance of an excess of export, says the *Tokyo Asahi* in its editorial of October 20th. The unfavourable balance in foreign trade for the past few years has called forth cries for the necessity to encourage home products as a means to alleviate it. This is only natural in this country, whose rights and commercial enterprises abroad are anything but important, while her foreign trade is so unfavourably balanced.

It is no easy task, however, to successfully encourage home products. There are two ways to do it. One is to encourage the use of home products and the other is to improve and develop home industry. In the former case, the products to encourage and the ways of doing so must be most carefully considered, and it would be an error, if the use of home products is simply encouraged by inflaming the patriotism of the people. The encouragement of the use of home products must be accompanied by the condition that these products are equally good in quality to the foreign products or that their prices are proportionately cheap. It would be impossible in the existing economic life here to encourage the use of comparatively dear domestic timber instead of cheaper American timber, in order to prevent the importation ot the latter, although the deeply rooted popular disposition to undiscriminatingly set too much value on foreign articles must be done away with. There are not a few domestic products, which are not inferior in quality to the foreign goods. Still some people prefer the latter. These people must be enlightened. Some domestic products are cheaper than the foreign goods, although inferior in quality to the latter, and they can be used without any disadvantageous effect on the efficiency and economy of the production of articles from them. These products may be encouraged to some benefit.

It is not unreasonable to urge the use of domestic products of this nature, but the encouragement of their use in partiality would be eventually of no avail and be injurious, for it is against the laws of economy, argues the paper. Scrutiny of these domestic products, which are suffering from foreign competition, will show a great many, which are unsuitable from the viewpoint of the laws of economy. The main point must, therefore, be improvement in quality. Domestic products are higher than the foreign goods, as their production costs are too high, owing to high commodity prices, to labour inefficiency and to the geographical disadvantages and lack of the raw materials. The geographical and natural disadvantages cannot be helped, but what can be remedied by human power should be remedied by all means. The inferiority of domestic products to the foreign goods in quality is principally due to the lack of technical ability of the Japanese manufacturers. The paper wishes to call the special attention of manufacturers, who have decided to push domestic products, to this point.

New Tendencies in the World of Art.—That certain artists, leaders in painting in Japan, have come to take more interest in Japanese than in foreign pictures, their specialty, and also the fact that some musicions will translate popular Western pieces, to make them easier to be understood by the public, is meeting with approval in various directions is interesting, says the *Tokyo Nichi-Nichi* in its editorial of October 25th

European and American worship still

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run high here, even those, who speak proudly of Japan ranking with the three or five greatest countries in the world in consequence of the World War, showing at the same time theire fear and admiration of Europe and America. This is not quite unreasonable, for while Japan is not so inferior in her military art to European and American countries, yet she cannot be independent of all thought and all sorts of civilization, and hibitually follows Europe and America in every kind of institution, everything in Europe and America being indiscriminately looked upon as more advanced than that in Japan. This Western admiration seems to have been most apparent among artists in Western painting and music.

These two arts cannot, from their nature, stand quite aloof from Europe and America and in fact, foreign painting and foreign vocal music here have hitherto showed nothing independent and orginal, while other Japanese-traditional arts and literature, which have been deeply under the influence of European and American civilization, have recently shown more or less independence of Western influence or have shown some noteworthy orginality, while following Western types. Even the above two arts have come to show, however, the above-mentinad tendencies.

Whether these tendencies are truly gratifying from the viewpoint of pure art the paper cannot say definitely as an outsider. A new trial is a new stimulus in whatever case. Especially, the above tendencies are an outcome of self-inspection and self-criticism of art and is a new movement from self-awakening, grounded consciously or unconsciously on the traditional spirit of the nation.

Conclusion of the Security Pact and its Effects.—The conclusion of the Security Pact for the safety of Europe at a conference held at Locarno by the mutual efforts and conciliatory spirit of the participating Powers is congratulated on by the *Chugai Shogyo* in its editorial of October 23rd.

There have been different causes of disturbances of peace in the past, and essentially, they have been mutual suspicion, leadi g to mutual misunderstanding and finally to the severing of diplomatic relations. The new pact is principally instrumental to create better feeling between Germany and France and to clear away all misapprehensions between them, which the paper thinks a step towards a greater peace in Europe and a means to secure the world's peace. The paper is glad of the success of the Locarno conference for the world's peace as a result of the removal of mutual misapprehensions among the Powers.

What effects will be given by the pact to the world and more especially to the Orient? It will be followed by a disarmament conference as a natural consequence, the chief subject of discussion at it being undoubtedly how to limit military armaments. In that event, the European Powers will surely make joint endeavours for this armament limitation. This must be a question to be considered thoroughly in Japan as one in which she is concerned at once.

When European peace is secured and the European Powers are relieved of the cause of mutual apprehension, it must be expected that these Powers or at least England and France will extend their hands somewhat positively to the Orient. Above all, England will undoubtedly make great efforts in the pursuance of her Oriental policy.

In the Orient, the position of England is not quite the same as in by-gone days. There are various reasons for it, and essentially, it was because of the condition of insecurity in Europe, which has occupied too much the attention of England to take an active interest outside. If the security pact can remove this condition of insecurity in Europe, it is doubtless that England will direct her main efforts to the execution of her Oriental policy. Japan ought to be most careful about this as it has direct bearing upon her.

Business Depression—Japan's business depression is too well known. This

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is having a regrettable effect on school boys and girls, observes the *Osaka Asahi* in its editorial of October 10th, there being many university and middle school boys and girls, who have been compelled to leave school for financial reasons these few years. Parents have the keenest wish to give their children at least a middle school education. Even this many of them have had to give up. Moreover, we often come across middle school boys selling news-papers on the streets. From these facts, how deeply the business depression has penetrated into Japanese homes in general can be appreciated.

There are no effectual official means taken for relieving the situation. What does the Government wish to do for this object? Its negative policy means no policy. The Kensei-kai cabinet was welcomed by the people who relied upon its platform and the policy advocated by the party. Since it assumed the reins of Government, however, it has practically carried out no good policies.

For meeting the existing business depression, the first official step must be to cut down greatly the national expenditure. Japan is suffering from want of money as is evinced by the higher rate of interest ruling here than in England and America. In order to relax the pressure, there can be no way but to increase the supply of funds in the money market by a retrenchment of the national expenditure by 200,000,000, or 300,000,000 yen a year, capitalizing an amount to be consumed by the nation. As long as capital is wanted as at present, it will be impossible to see a recovery of trade. The Seiyu Party's policy to mitigate the want of capital by extending the Bank of Japan's limit of note issue against securities will, however, only aggravate the situation in the opinion of the paper, for capital from the viewpoint of national economy is a product and not simply an expansion of currency.

Machines run well, when lubricated. But it is erroneous to think that the more they are lubricated the better they run. When they stop running due to some trouble, the trouble must be removed first. The existing business depression in Japan is not owing to want of lubrication, but to trouble in its machinery—a trouble, which cannot be remedied offhand, but after carefull study. Lubricating is necessary only after this repair; otherwise, it will only injure the mechanical power. As currency is the lubricant of national economy, its expansion by extending note issues agaist securities will do little towards preventing tradal dullness. At the same time, it is bad to take such a negative policy as that of the present Ministry. The Government is very lukewarm in dealing with the present social condition. Does the Government wish to adhere to this attitude and does it think its present nagative, or nonpolicy, best in these conditions? questions the paper.

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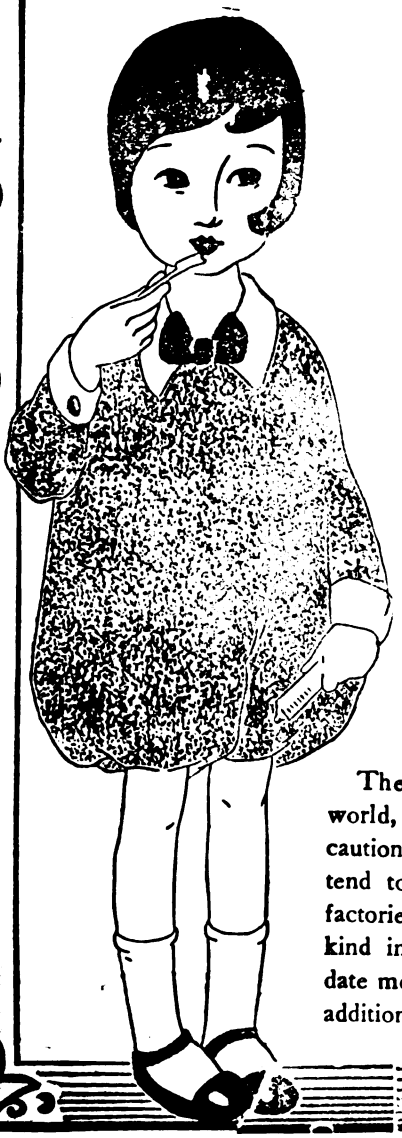

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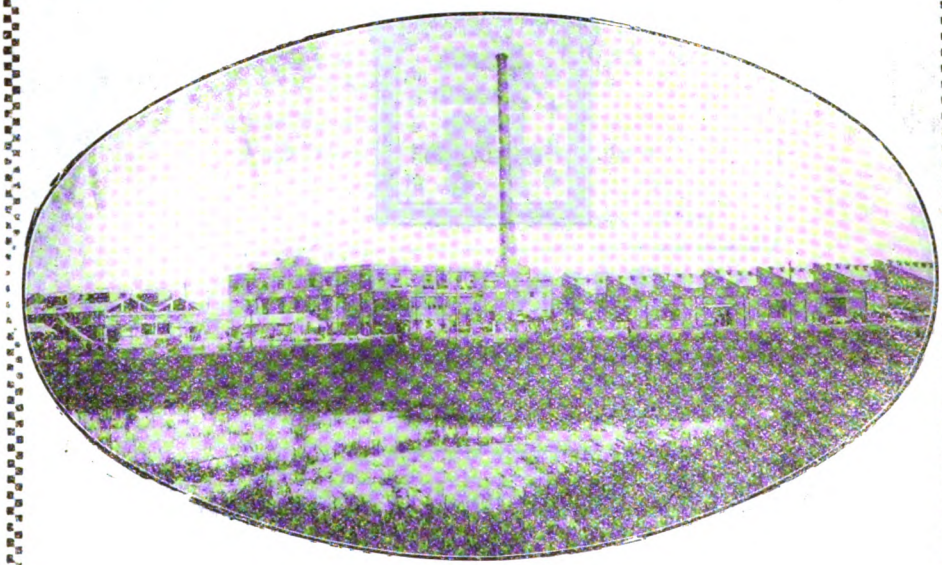

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(THE TOYO TAKUSHOKU KABUSHIKI KAISHA)

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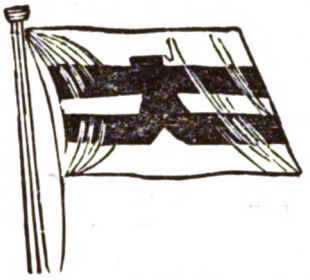

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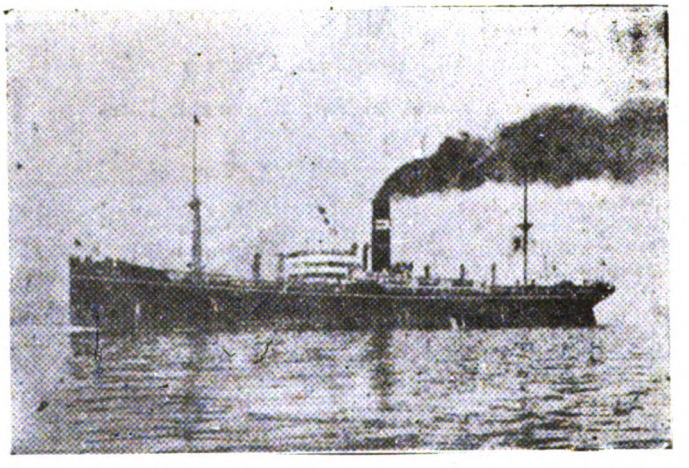

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Hongkong-Puget Sound Line: Fortnightly

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Hongkong-New Orleans Line: (via Cuba) Monthly

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